Gloria throws the book at grafters, smugglers

STORY ON PAGE A2

WHAT'S INSIDE

- **'Milenyo' death toll increases to 26** NEWS / A3
- **Gualberto probe sought** NEWS / A5
- **Gov't plans $3B in new loans in 2003** BUSINESS / B1

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

JDV endorses impeach rap against Tancangco

By Christine Avendaño

THE DOG days of August may hound controversial Election Commissioner Luzviminda Tancangco, after Speaker Jose de Venecia endorsed the impeachment complaint against her—for alleged graft and corruption and betrayal of public trust—to the House committee on rules.

JDV/A18

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Friday, August 16, 2002 ★ 92 pages / 8 sections / vol.17 / no. 249 P15 website: www.inq7.net

3 AFP officers in Lamitan siege face ax

Senate draft report calls for court martial

By Rocky Nazareno

A GENERAL, a colonel and a major may face court martial for allegedly colluding with the Abu Sayyaf led by its spokesperson Abu Sabaya. The collusion allegedly allowed the bandits to escape last year from a military dragnet in Lamitan, Basilan, according to a draft Senate committee report.

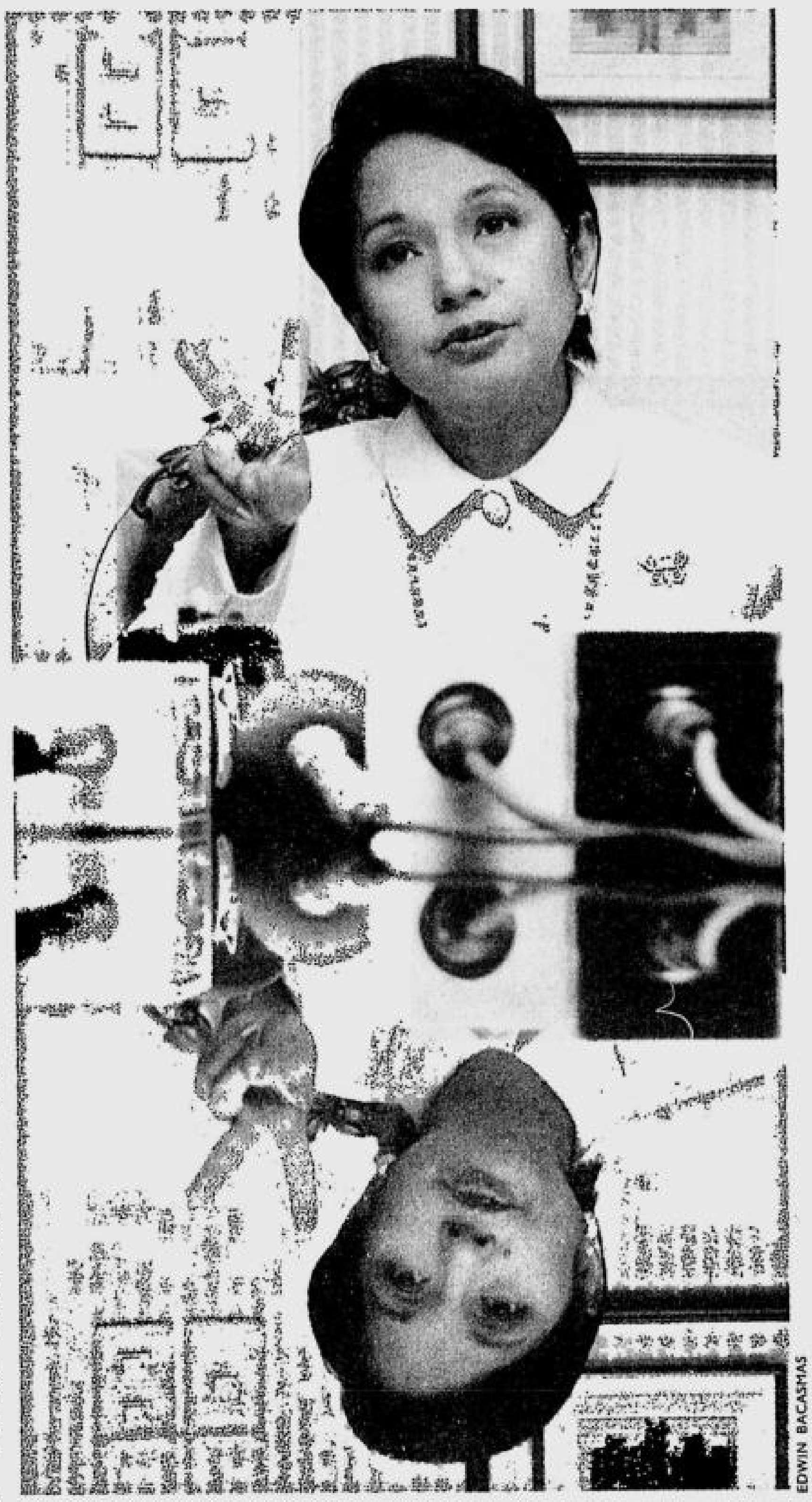
The report said the Senate committee on national defense and security and the committee on justice and human rights would recommend the "convening of the court martial to pursue an investigation and prosecution" of Maj. Gen. Romeo Dominguez, Col. Juvenal Narcise and Major Eliseo Campued.

They may have violated three provisions of the Articles of War in connection with their possible culpability in the escape on June 2, 2001 of Abu Sayyaf bandits cornered at the Dr. Jose Ma. Torres Memorial Hospital in Lamitan.

The report said the three military officers could be charged with "misbehavior before the enemy and endangering the command because of recklessness and negligence (Article 76), conduct unbecoming of officers and gentlemen (Article 94) and disorder and conduct to the prejudice of military order and discipline (Article 97)."

Dominguez, Narcise and Campued were among the military officials ac-

3 AFP/21



EDWIN BACASMAS

TWO MUCH President Macapagal spends a very busy day Thursday at the Department of Justice as she announces the filing of charges against a Landbank cashier, two smugglers, several judges and prosecutors. *(Story on Page A2)*

Roco move rocking Lakas boat

By Carlito Pablo and Dona Z. Pazzibugan

MALACAÑANG appears to have accepted that Raul Roco is out of the Department of Education for good and is looking for a way for him to help the administration "in another capacity."

With yesterday's meeting aborted—the second supposed meeting in two successive days that did not materialize—Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said a "future meeting" between President Macapagal-Arroyo and Roco was being arranged on a date that would "depend on the convenience of both parties."

Asked about the purpose of such a meeting, Bunye said: "I guess it's still to at least clear the air and possibly to explore how they can still work together maybe in another capacity."

Bunye skirted the issue of whether the President was letting go of Roco and would not try to win him back.

ROCO MOVE/A4

German hostage tells CNN Erap, aide pocketed ransom

By Juliet L. Javellana and Volt Contreras

A FORMER German captive of the Abu Sayyaf said on CNN Wednesday that ousted President Joseph Estrada and his aide Robert Aventajado worked to increase the ransom for his family and then pocketed part of the money.

Werner Wallert, interviewed on CNN's Q&A, named Libyan envoy Rajab Azzarouq and the Gadhafi Charity Foundation as the "good guys" who bought and obtained their freedom.

By Wallert's account, Estrada and Aventajado, the chief hostage negotiator, were the bad guys.

Estrada and Aventajado denied Wallert's allegation.

When told of Wallert's allegation, Estrada said "over my dead body. *Baka pakawala lang 'yan.*"

He wondered aloud why the former hostage would speak of the alleged ransom scam two years after the incident.

"Azzarouq told me that $1 million (per hostage) was the price from Day One. The Abu Sayyaf never went down so how can we jack up the price?" Aventajado told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

Wallert, his wife Renate and son Marc, who are from the central German town of Goettingen, were among

GERMAN/A18

FILE PHOTO/DENNIS SABANGAN

WERNER WALLERT on his release in Jolo, Sulu, in August 2000 now pinpoints the bad and the good guys.

Roco accuses Palace of 'manipulating' him

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan and Donna S. Cueto

A FIGHTING Raul Roco accused Malacañang of "manipulating" him by announcing his supposed "private" meeting yesterday with President Macapagal-Arroyo.

The newly resigned education secretary did not show up at the breakfast meeting that Ms Macapagal herself announced to Palace reporters Wednesday over lunch. He told the INQUIRER that another meeting had been set but that he would bring his brother, Camarines Sur Rep. Sulpicio Roco, to serve as his "witness" because he was "fearful of being manipulated."

Asked what he saw in meeting with the President, he replied: "They can offer to reappoint me, that's up to them. But it's ridiculous that I go through the CA (Commission on Appointments) again. Maybe they can ask me to do something else."

But he said he could not serve in the Cabinet anymore, "when the President in effect charges you (with graft)."

Roco told reporters that he would not reconsider his decision to quit the Department of Education, which he announced to the media on Tuesday.

"I resigned as a point of honor. I will not change that. Honor can't wait," he said.

ROCO/A4

NBI 'railroaded' Acsa case, says lawyer

By Philip Tubeza

IN ITS hurry to pin Landbank cashier Acsa Ramirez down, did the National Bureau of Investigation skip a few steps? Lawyer Virginia Suarez-Pinlac, Ramirez's counsel, thinks so.

She said yesterday that contrary to the impression created by the NBI, her client had not actually been charged. The NBI had "only asked" the Department of Justice on Tuesday to include her in its case against Binangonan, Rizal, branch manager Artemio San Juan Jr., a case already submitted for decision last week.

The bureau also made the mistake of going directly to the DOJ, when it should have first submitted its findings to the Anti-Money Laundering Council—the only body, according to the law, that can file charges against money launderers, she added.

"*Nagpipilit sila* (They are forcing it). There are no charges. What they did was put a cover page on their investigative report and passed it to the DOJ. It's simply a letter; it's not even a complaint. They're telling DOJ, 'Please include Acsa in the case against San Juan.' But that has been submitted for decision on Aug. 9," Pinlac said.

"Until now, they would still like to justify their erroneous presentation of Acsa (as a suspect). *Pinapanindigan*

NBI/A18

Gov't revives gun raps against Satur

'Squeeze play' tactics vs communist rebels assailed

By Christian Esguerra, Christine Avendaño and Carlito Pablo

"SQUEEZE play" tactics won't work.

Bayan Muna party-list Rep. Satur Ocampo yesterday said the Macapagal administration was wrong to assume that it could hasten peace talks with communist rebels through the "squeeze play" tactics it was employing with the help of the United States.

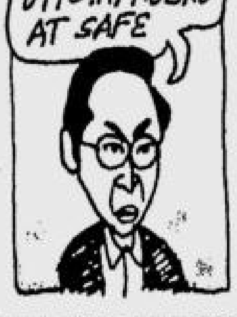
Ocampo himself felt the squeeze, when 13-year-old charges against him were revived.

Ocampo, former spokesperson of the National Democratic Front peace panel, and his wife Carolina Malay will be arraigned before the Makati Regional Trial Court on Aug. 23 in connection with the illegal possession of firearms charges filed against them in 1989.

The congressman said he was giving the government "the benefit of the doubt" about the suddenly revived charges. "It's suspicious, but we're giving (Judge Rebecca Mariano) a leeway," he said. "We presume her integrity."

The revival comes in the wake of the US state department's inclusion of the New

GOV'T/A18


MAG RETIRE NA LANG AKO DITO...PRESKO AT SAFE

Joma thinking of retirement

IS Jose Ma. Sison finally mellowing?

Harassed by the US, Dutch and Philippine governments, the founder of the Communist Party of the Philippines is now considering retirement in the Dutch city of Utrecht where he and 30 other party leaders have been living in

JOMA/A18

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Western sections of Central and Southern Luzon and Western Visayas will experience monsoon rains. The rest of the country will be cloudy with scattered rainshowers.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/08/16/02

Metro Manila	Monsoon Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Monsoon Rains
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Monsoon Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Monsoon Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

GMA throws the book at grafters, smugglers

By Michael Lim Ubac

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo spent a very busy day yesterday—at the Department of Justice.

At a DOJ press conference, the President announced the filing of criminal charges against Land Bank of the Philippines branch manager Artemio San Juan, who stands accused of diverting some P203 million in taxes intended for the government.

The President said San Juan was charged with 15 counts of violating the Anti-Money Laundering Law.

Ms Macapagal also announced the filing of criminal charges against a Chinese trader believed to be a top rice smuggler and a ship captain who allegedly smuggled 19,000 sacks of rice into the country last year.

The President identified the suspected smugglers as Nieves Uy and Capt. Antonio Olivan, who allegedly used fake documents to bring in imported rice.

Ms Macapagal said the DOJ Task Force on Anti-Smuggling filed yesterday a complaint for violation of the Tariff and Customs Code against the two with the Camarines Sur Regional Trial Court.

Crackdown

The President likewise announced that charges have been filed against several judges and prosecutors as part of a new crackdown on judicial corruption—an issue the US ambassador had publicly complained about.

The Associated Press said Ms Macapagal named five state prosecutors and three judges who are facing charges that include extortion, bribery and incompetence. A provincial prosecutor was also charged with sexual harassment.

"Let this be a reminder to all the judges," said Ms Macapagal, who visited the DOJ to check on the progress of the cases.

The President said that while she respected the separation of powers between the executive and judicial departments, "the executive shall not stand by or wash its hands of cases where members of the bench are involved."

Among those charged was a metropolitan Manila judge who allegedly ordered the release on bail of five Chinese nationals arrested recently on unbailable drugs possession charges.

Another judge in Albay province was charged with graft for allegedly preventing customs and other officials from confiscating 35,000 bags of smuggled rice.

Most of the prosecutors were charged with allegedly extorting money from people implicated in various cases.

Turn-off

US Ambassador Francis Ricciardone had publicly complained last month that foreign investors were being turned off by the corruption, particularly in the judiciary.

Ricciardone told foreign correspondents in a briefing that investors had complained to him and other ambassadors, and warned the country could lose foreign investments to Asian neighbors like China if such obstacles persisted.

Justice Secretary Hernani Perez announced the DOJ has filed charges with the Ombudsman's Office against two trial judges—Pedro de Leon Gutierrez of Pasay City and Rodrigo Lorenzo of Pasig City.

Gutierrez was charged with graft for granting a demurrer to evidence despite strong evidence of drug dealing involving 986.35 grams of methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu.

Lorenzo was charged with graft for ordering the release on bail of five Chinese nationals who were arrested in a shabu factory in Pasig this year.

Lorenzo allowed the suspects to post bail even though they were charged with manufacturing and selling shabu, a non-bailable offense.

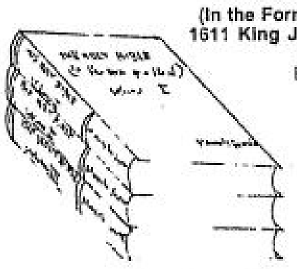
Prosecutors

Perez had earlier ordered an investigation of prosecutor Conrado Tolentino, who handled the case, for possible filing of charges. Apparently, Tolentino did not object to the Chinese suspects' petition for bail.

"Both the judge and the prosecutor will be charged. We are doing this to fight irregularities within the judicial system," Perez said.

Perez also announced that five prosecutors have been charged before the Ombudsman's Office for several offenses.

Perez identified the five as Manila Assistant City Prosecutor Constancio Velasco (for extortion), Parañaque City Assistant Prosecutor Apolinar Quetulio Jr. (extortion), Capiz Assistant Provincial Prosecutor Romulo Gotico (extortion), Naga City Assistant City Prosecutor Victor de la Paz (sexual harassment) and San Fernando City Assistant Prosecutor Oscar Corpuz (gross neglect of duty, inefficiency and incompetence). *With an AP report*



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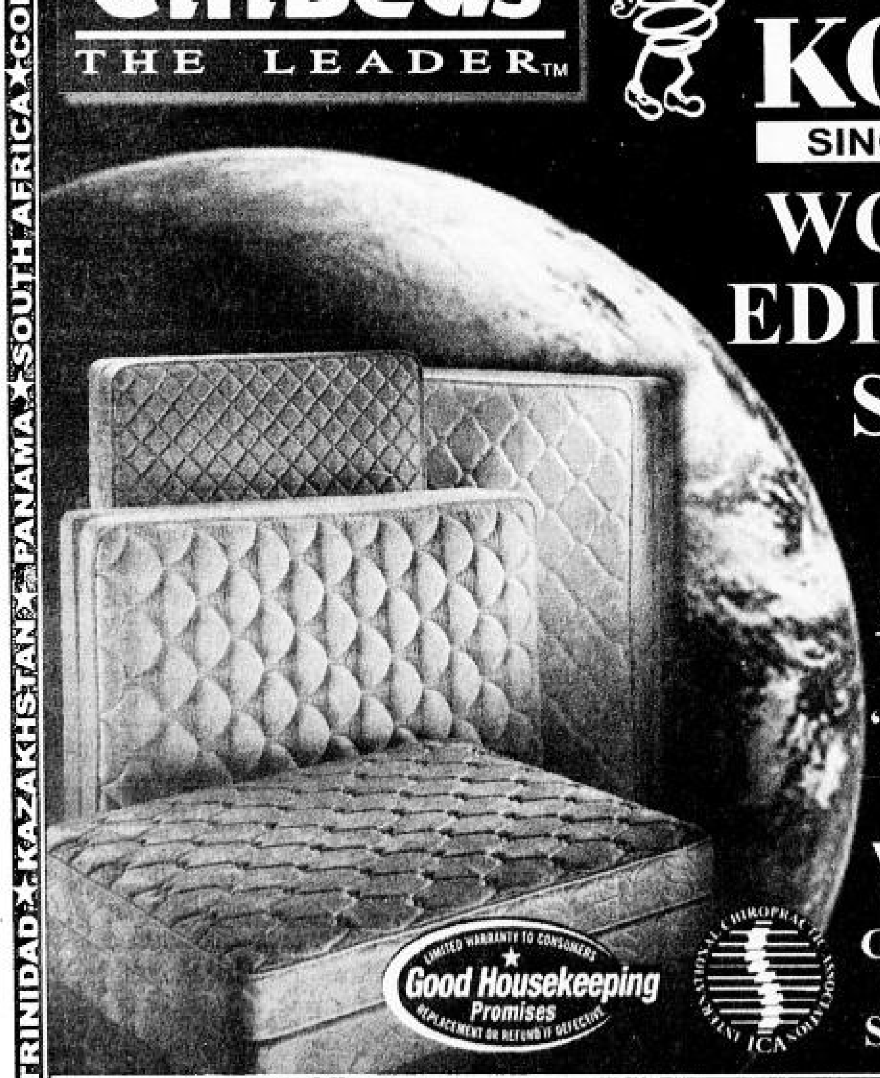

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Customs chief confirms payola

By Armand N. Nocum

PAYOLA collected in the 15 collection districts of the Bureau of Customs that was being channeled to the BOC's top officials and members of the media every Friday had long been the subject of talk among customs employees.

And in a recent interview, new Customs Commissioner Antonio Bernardo confirmed the practice existed, but said he was not going to tolerate it.

Bernardo has flatly told his district collectors he was not going to take the money traditionally allotted to the customs chief.

"From day one, I said I was not going to receive (payola). . . you know the system here, every Friday (the money goes) all the way up," Bernardo told the INQUIRER in an interview.

"*Sinabi ko wala akong tatanggapin, hindi ako hihingi o tatanggap sa inyo* (I told them I would not take or ask for anything), all I ask is good performance," he said.

He confirmed that Fridays at the BOC were characterized by "bedlam," as officials and some media persons haggled for their weekly take.

He said he got wind of this early into his appointment. The bureau is known as one of the most corrupt in government.

"You hear a lot of stories, unsolicited advice from everybody. 'Sir, its nothing, there's nothing to it. They don't want anything in exchange, it's just SOP (standard operating procedure)," he said, of the offers for him to partake of the Friday payola.

His refusal to accept his"share," he said, was making many of those on the take "very uncomfortable."

"They are uneasy about having a missing component" in the Friday payola, he added.

Bernardo, who had been ordered by the President to go after smugglers and their protectors, vowed he would not change his ways.

"This is it, what you see is what you get," he said.

Milenyo death toll rises to 26

THE DEATH toll from "Milenyo" continued to rise even as the rains brought by the tropical depression have started to ease a bit, the Office of Civil Defense reported yesterday.

As of 5 a.m. Thursday, a total of 26 persons had died, including five who drowned in Rizal province on Wednesday, officials of the OCD's National Disaster Coordinating Center said in a report. The figure was up from 22 persons killed reported the day before.

The latest casualties were identified as Edison Montallano, 7, of Tanay; Luisito Macaraig, 44, of Pililla; Ignacio Moriscol, age unknown, of Taytay; Dominga Abito, 60, of Teresa, and John Christopher Santos, 16, of Antipolo City.

The number of persons who remain missing since the tropical storm hit the country over the weekend remained at four.

According to the NDCC, at least 53,176 persons, or 9,628 families, were affected by "Milenyo". Of these, 42,173 persons, or 7,302 families, were in Region VI.

The other regions hit hard by "Milenyo" were Regions VIII, IV, III, VII and X. *TJ Burgonio*

Fired maid gets $19,000 settlement

HONG KONG—A Filipino maid fired for having a deformed hand was awarded HK$150,000 (US$19,230) after settling a discrimination lawsuit filed against her former employer, a newspaper reported Thursday.

Beatriz Madriaga Cabanilla, 30, said her ex-boss, Frandly Wong Wai-chu, had "expressed revulsion" when she showed up for her first day of work last month and Wong noticed she had just three fingers on her left hand.

Cabanilla said she tried to show Wong she was able to perform her duties, as she had for three other employers, but she was fired within two days, the English-language Post said.

Wong agreed Wednesday to settle the case, the Post said. *AP*

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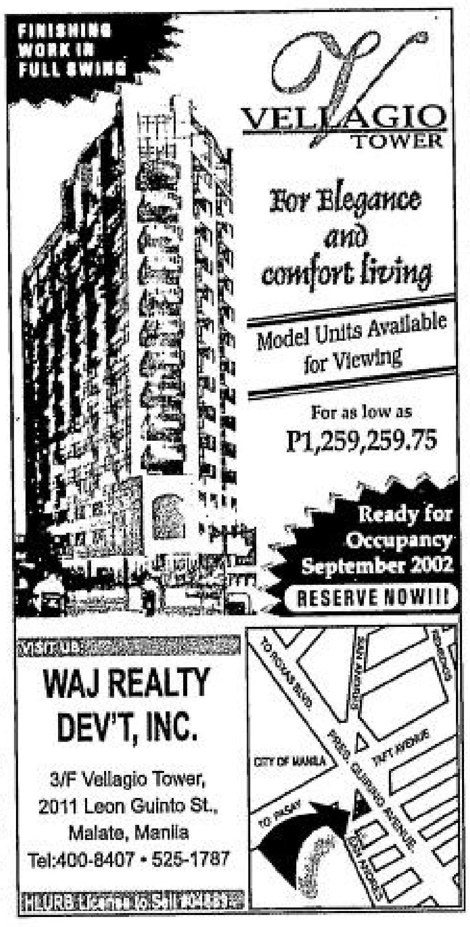

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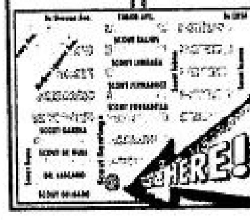

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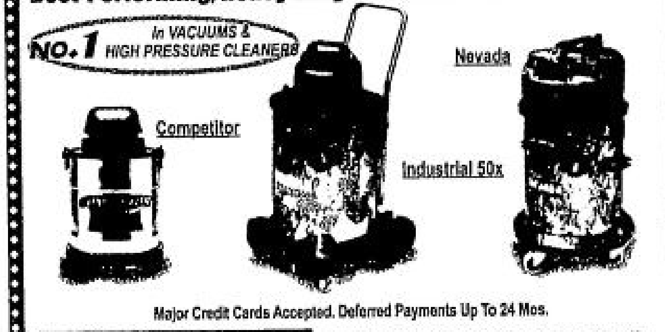

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Roco accuses Palace of 'manipulating' him

From page A1

In an interview with lawyer Henry Briguera of radio station dzGE based in Naga City, Roco spoke in his native tongue in assuring his fellow Bicolanos that he would fight to uphold his honor.

"We cannot be destroyed without fighting. That's not the Bicolano way," he declared, adding:

"It is hard to make a name if you are from an unknown family. It is like a plant that you water every day and ensure that it receives sunlight."

The DepEd Central Office Employees Union accused Roco of graft in a complaint that it submitted early this month to Malacañang. Ms Macapagal has endorsed the complaint to the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission for investigation—a move that prompted Roco to quit.

Roco told Briguera that he had angered many union members because they could no longer impose a 2-percent service fee for preparing teachers' salary checks.

"They already collect their pay," he said. "Why should they charge the teachers when it is their job to prepare the IBM payroll system?"

He said Congress abolished the collection of the 2-percent service fee when his side on the issue was heard.

Out of courtesy

Roco said that since Tuesday, Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo, Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman, and presidential advisers Paul Dominguez and Rene de Villa had approached him to ask if he would meet with Ms Macapagal.

He recalled expressing willingness to meet with the President "out of courtesy" to her, but only privately because he was no longer with the Cabinet. He denied having agreed to yesterday's 7:30 a.m. meeting.

He said he was surprised to get a call from a TV reporter on Wednesday afternoon inquiring about the breakfast meeting.

"Bert, you know me. I don't like being manipulated," Roco said he told Romulo, who called right after the TV reporter hung up.

He said Romulo was "shocked" and immediately scheduled another meeting with the promise to keep it away from the media.

But Roco was further infuriated yesterday to find out that Vicky Garchitorena and Mai-Mai Jimenez, both advisers of the President, would have attended the aborted meeting. Romulo had supposedly promised that only he and the President would meet with Roco.

At his regular news briefing yesterday, Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye acknowledged that the meeting was canceled because it was supposed to have been private.

Quoting Romulo, Bunye said the next meeting would be a one-on-one between the President and Roco.

Still with PPC

Roco said his political party Aksyon Demokratiko would stay with the administration's People Power Coalition.

"I'm with the PPC—that has not changed," he stressed. "But I'm not in the Cabinet."

He said he had been on good terms personally and professionally with the President. "That's why I feel aggrieved because I'm under attack for nothing," he added.

But he was not being onion-skinned in resigning, Roco told the Naga-based dzGE.

He said he did not inherit a name in politics but worked hard to make a name.

"Maybe it is they who have inherited a name in politics, which should make them elephant-skinned," he said without naming names.

Roco said that for eight months, he had shied away from publicity and focused on what he could do to improve the DepEd.

For the first time, he aired his side on the alleged irregular tax-exemption grant to the University of Santo Tomas Hospital involving the import of P70 million worth of medical equipment—one of the points raised by the DepEd union against him.

Education Undersecretary Jaime Jacob had questioned the grant of tax exemption, and subsequently resigned.

Roco said Jacob was insistent that UST must show proof that it owned the hospital. He said he told Jacob to grant the tax exemption because everybody knew that the century-old educational institution owned the hospital.

He pointed out that the Commission on Higher Education had already approved the import of certain equipment like the MRI.

He said he also told Jacob that as education secretary, he would take responsibility for whatever might result from his decision.

Packing up

Roco has not been seen at his DepEd office since his resignation, and members of his staff have started moving his things.

Some of the first to be hauled off were a handsome pencil sketch of Roco with the presidential seal in the background, supposedly a "thank you" gift from a couple, and his mounted pictures with public school teacher Marilyn Bongiad, who returned around P6 million in cash mistakenly deposited in her account last May.

The buzz of activity at the second floor occupied by his staff and consultants—whose number DepEd union members had questioned—was gone.

Roco's people refused to tell reporters where he was. It was his "freedom day," they said.

The staff that he brought with him to the DepEd will leave along with him.

Education Undersecretaries Percival Flores, Ernesto Pangan and Fe Hidalgo—whose positions are coterminous with that of Roco—have submitted courtesy resignations.

Only Undersecretary Ramon Bacani, a career officer who rose through the ranks and an undersecretary even during Andrew Gonzales' term as education chief, will remain. He is now acting education secretary.

Orfelina Tuy, acting chair of the National Educators' Academy of the Philippines, said Roco "gave direction" to the DepEd.

"He is very decisive. He had a clear vision," said Tuy, who has worked at the education department for 32 years.

She said Roco had probably shocked most of the people at the DepEd who had a different culture. "Definitely, he is not corrupt," she said.

Tuy also said Roco's resignation was unfortunate because "seldom do we get a man of his caliber at the department."

"He made things happen. He was obeyed. He did not mince words," she added. ***With a report from Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Roco move . . .

From page A1

"We'd like to reserve comment until after they have actually talked," he said.

As for Roco's official status, he said: "There has been no official action yet other than to extend an invitation to another meeting."

The fallout from Roco's resignation is rocking the administration's boat.

The Lakas-NUCD yesterday issued a statement hitting back at former Cebu Gov. Emilio "Lito" Osmeña, who on Wednesday accused members of the ruling party of having a hand in forcing the resignation.

Lakas executive director Jose Ma. Rufino said Osmeña was "foul-baiting the President so that (she) will help him revive (his) Promdi (party) in time for the 2004 elections."

Rufino also said Osmeña was calling attention to himself because he was "abandoned by his Promdi partymates in Cebu who crossed over to Lakas."

Members of the DepEd Central Office Employees Union again held a victory rally yesterday and expressed hope that the President would accept Roco's resignation.

Union president Domingo Alidon said the DepEd was better off without Roco.

Proceeding on the assumption that Roco would again seek the presidency in 2004, union officers said they would embark on a campaign for the people not to vote for him.

Odd man out

Bunye appeared the fool yesterday morning when he confidently said the breakfast meeting between Roco and the President would go on as scheduled.

He was not told that the previous night, the President said the meeting had been canceled. She announced this toward the end of her dinner in Malacañang with executives of radio stations dzME, dzAR and Veritas.

Both Bunye and Dodie Limcaoco, Ms Macapagal's adviser on media and ecclesiastical affairs, were present at her Wednesday luncheon with reporters where she announced the meeting.

But unlike Bunye, Limcaoco was aware that the meeting had been called off.

"Yes, that's true," a grinning Bunye said at his news briefing yesterday afternoon. "I was not informed. No big deal."

Asked why no one had bothered to tell him, he said he was to join the President at her meeting with Roco but that he begged off because of an "important engagement."

"Perhaps the appointments secretary (Constancia de Guzman) did not deem it necessary to inform me anymore because I was not attending," he said.

Bunye dragged with him most of the Malacañang reporters and told them that he would read the Palace statement after the breakfast meeting.

In early-morning interviews with dzBB and dzRH, he said the meeting would push through because Roco himself had set the date and time.

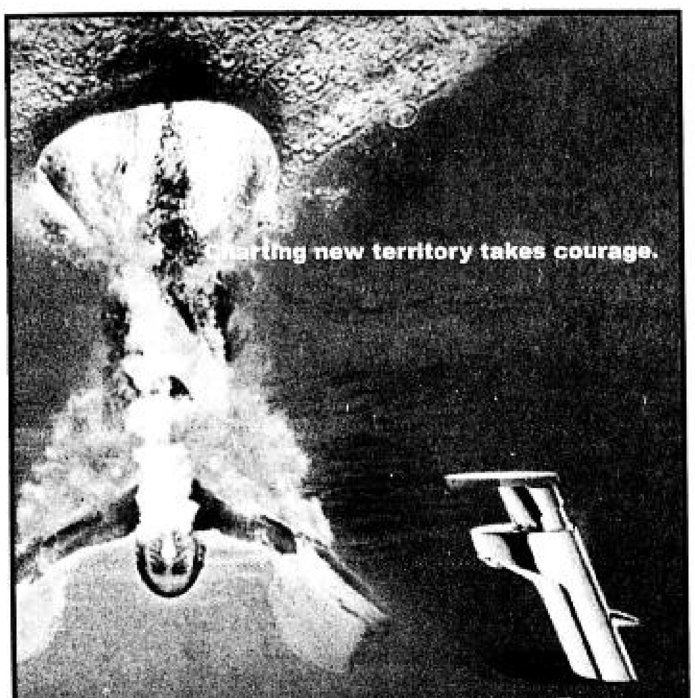
Later in the day, Bunye was more circumspect.

He said he would wait for the outcome of the meeting before discussing Roco's role, if any, in the administration.

"I would like to reserve comment on that until after the meeting has actually taken place," he said. "I believe the President has extended her hand. Let's see how things develop."

Asked about the state of the DepEd, Bunye said: "I've not been there, but according to reports the secretary has cleared his office."

He said the "senior undersecretary," apparently referring to Education Undersecretary Ramon Bacani, was "there in an acting capacity." ***With a report from Donna S. Cueto***



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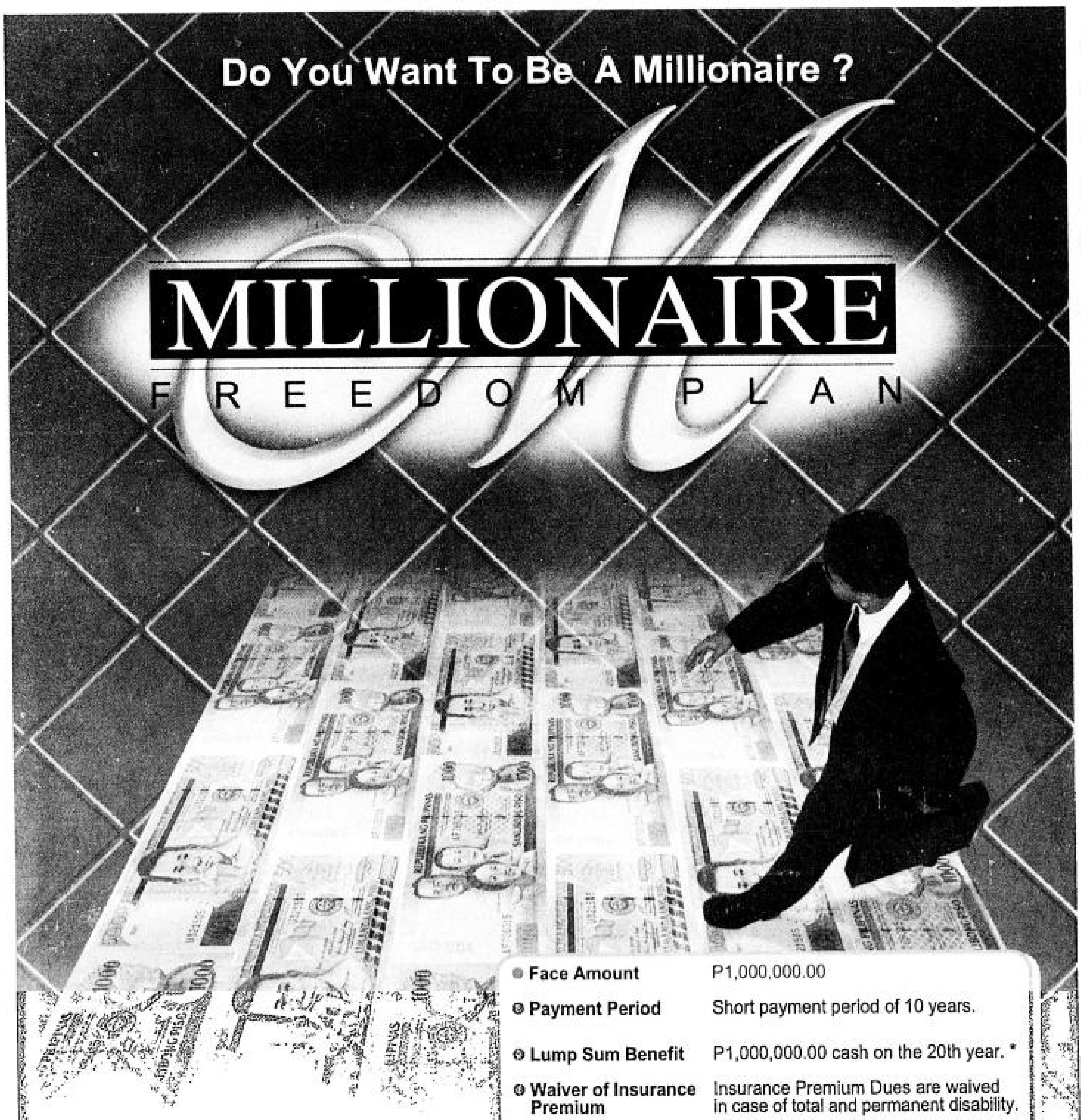
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Probe of Gualberto sought for questioning DOJ order on Nida case

AN INCENSED State Prosecutor Emmanuel Velasco yesterday sought the investigation of police Director Nestorio Gualberto for questioning the Department of Justice order to reinvestigate the Nida Blanca slay case.

Velasco went to national police headquarters at Camp Crame, Quezon City, to lodge a complaint against Gualberto with the office of PNP chief Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr.

Velasco said Gualberto's act of questioning the reinvestigation order smacked of incompetence and conduct unbecoming an officer.

"General Gualberto, to cover up his incompetence in the initial investigation of the case, has continually blamed the DOJ and the undersigned for ordering the reinvestigation of the case," Velasco said.

Gualberto, chief of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG), declined to comment on Velasco's complaint, but said he would submit his reply as soon as possible.

Velasco said Gualberto had blamed him for prematurely terminating the case in November and for preventing the CIDG from presenting witnesses during the preliminary investigation of the case at the DOJ last Monday. *TJ Burgonio*

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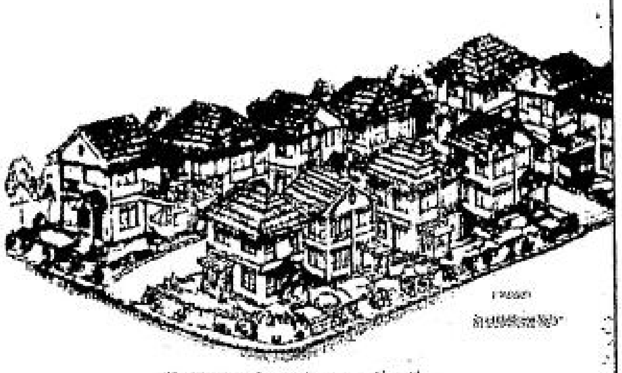

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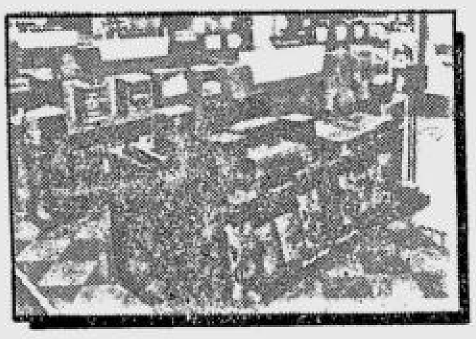

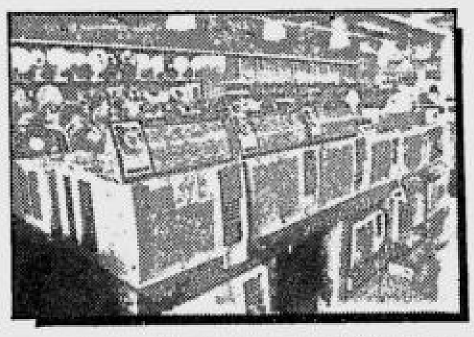
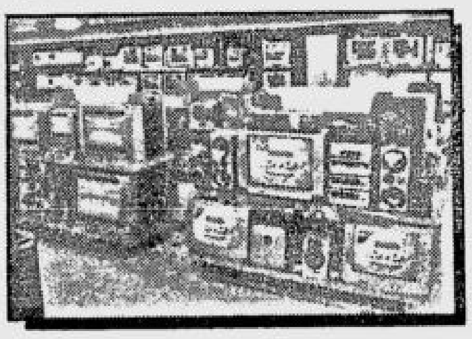

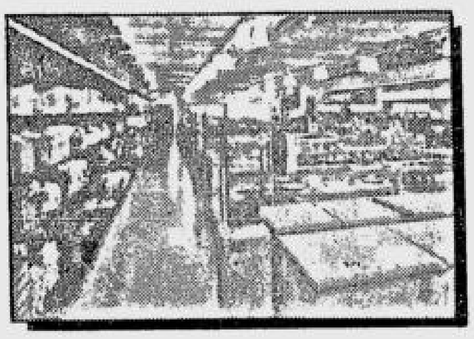

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ACSA RAMIREZ: Forcing the issue.

NBI railroaded Acsa case—lawyer

From page A1

talaga. They are trying to include Acsa in the (charge sheet) when she was the whistleblower," she said.

Pinlac also said the bureau again made a blunder when it hastily "charged" Ramirez before the DOJ.

Legal personality?

"The truth is the NBI does not have the legal personality to file (anti-money laundering) charges. Under the (Anti-Money Laundering) law, it is only the Anti-Money Laundering Council that can file the charges," Pinlac said.

The AMLC is composed of representatives of the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, and the Insurance Commission.

"Assuming they have an order from AMLC to investigate, they should have submitted their findings first to the AMLC and then let it decide. They can investigate but investigating is different from filing a case," Pinlac said.

"Pero nagmamadali kasi. Nagpipilit pa na isama si Acsa (But they were in a hurry to pin her down)," she said.

Pinlac also corrected NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco's statement that "anyone" who comes across a bank transaction worth P4 million and above and does not report it to the AMLC is criminally liable.

"The (Anti-Money Laundering) law has implementing guidelines and rules and obviously he does not know them. These guidelines state the three persons who should report and Acsa is not among them," Pinlac said.

She showed the INQUIRER a copy of the guidelines which state that those who should report include those "who dealt directly with the customer in the transaction and/or those who made the internal report within the covered institution (the teller), the (bank's) compliance officer or his equivalent, or the senior official of the covered institution with a rank not lower than senior vice president."

"Nobody can just go to the AMLC and report. There is even a specified (written complaint) form," Pinlac said.

President misinformed

Pinlac also took exception to President Macapagal-Arroyo's statements at the DOJ yesterday that Ramirez had been charged and that she was not in fact the whistle-blower in the P203-million tax diversion scam.

"She has many lawyers around her and they should inform her about this (the NBI's legal standing when it comes to anti-money laundering)," Pinlac said.

"And it was Acsa who reported the fictitious accounts. It was due to her report that the (special tax audit was made). She did not just report it verbally (to Landbank vice president Carmencita Bayot), she also made (a) written request (for a background investigation on the fraudulent accounts)," she said.

In her sworn statement, Ramirez said she and her husband even went to Bayot's house on July 16, a Sunday, to give her the full details about a bogus P26-billion account.

Ramirez had informed Bayot about the attempt to open the P26-billion account on June 14. Bayot conferred with Chinabank and confirmed that the P26-billion Chinabank check was fraudulent, thus stopping the deposit even before the account could be opened.

"After the Bonsalagan case, I reported the other many accounts in Binangonan that Artemio San Juan said were 'valued accounts.' . . . Some of those I reported were: Alma Clemente, Joven Aquino, and Roberto Lucero," she wrote in Filipino.

The Clemente, Aquino, Lucero, and the Joven C. Aquino accounts were the fraudulent accounts the tax syndicate used to divert P203 million in tax money.

Further investigation

Bayot then instructed Ramirez to further investigate the fraudulent accounts. She also agreed with Ramirez's suggestion that the cashier write a "letter of request for background investigation."

Ramirez made the letter on June 20. On the last week of that month, Bayot asked the Landbank internal audit department to conduct a special audit. After the audit, the Landbank filed administrative charges against San Juan, Ramirez's predecessor Ramon Joven, and new accounts clerk Cristina Sanvictores.

Pinlac said Ramirez became sad after hearing the NBI decision to file charges against her.

"But we are confident that she would be cleared of all these accusations. I'm even impressed because she still says that we should all help expose government anomalies," she added.

Slay witness slain, says press watchdog

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Police yesterday rejected a report by a global press watchdog that a key witness in the murder of a Filipino journalist had been gunned down.

The Reporters Without Borders (RSF) said witness Gury Ladica was shot and killed in Zamboanga del Sur last week after implicating a senior police officer in the murder of journalist Edgar Damalerio.

Damalerio, 33, a broadcaster and editor of a community newspaper, was shot and killed in May after exposing alleged corruption in the police force. He was the fourth journalist to be killed in the past 17 months in the strife-torn south.

"The murder of a person benefiting from a witness protection program established by the government is a very serious violation of the rule of law and shows how determined the killers of journalist Damalerio are to eliminate the witnesses," RSF secretary-general Robert Menard said in a letter to Interior Secretary Jose Lina.

But provincial police chief Pedrito Reyes denied the RSF accusation, saying, there were no reports that a man named Gury Ladica was killed in the province.

He said a pro-government militiaman Jovy Lovitania was ambushed by unidentified gunmen while on his way home near Pagadian City, but that it appeared to have no connection with the reporter's case. *AFP*

Associates defend FVR on Casecnan

BY Rocky Nazareno

TWO associates of former president Fidel Ramos—former Agriculture Secretary Roberto Sebastian and former National Power Corp. president Guido Delgado—yesterday defended the multibillion-peso Casecnan Multi-Purpose Project before the Senate blue ribbon committee, asserting that it was implemented to address the then prevailing energy crisis and lack of sufficient irrigation systems.

Former Agriculture Secretary Roberto Sebastian said the project had to be undertaken because the country's agriculture sector was "fast losing its ability to produce adequate amounts of food due to the lack of sufficient irrigation systems.

Sebastian likewise noted that the country was also going through a power crisis that crippled industries and discouraged the entry of much-needed foreign investments.

"The project was carried out in response to these prevailing emergencies. It was designed to augment the water supply of the Pantabangan Reservoir which serves the country's primary rice-growing region and would not provide additional electrical power to the Napocor's Luzon grid," Sebastian said in his prepared statement during the resumption of the Senate investigation of the Casecnan controversy.

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Crackdown on 'illegals' backfires on Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR—Malaysia set out to teach illegal immigrants a lesson by sending hundreds of thousands fleeing home recently under threat of jail and caning, but learnt one itself—the economy needs migrant workers badly.

Local newspapers Thursday focused on an embarrassing about-turn in which the government reversed a ban on the employment of Indonesians in the construction sector and agreed to a new recruitment drive.

The move came after property developers warned construction sites were grinding to a halt and project delays would cost millions of dollars and possibly push house prices up by as much as 10 percent.

Illegal Indonesian immigrants made up 70 percent of the building industry's 500,000 foreign workers, according to the Master Builders Association of Malaysia (MBAM).

Many of them were among the more than 300,000 people who left for home during a four-month amnesty ahead of the introduction of tough new penalties for illegal immigrants which came into effect on Aug. 1.

The crackdown on illegals exacerbated labor problems caused by a government ban on even the legal recruitment of Indonesians for the construction industry, which was imposed in February after two riots by migrant workers. *AFP*

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Friday, August 16, 2002
19th Week in Ordinary Time
1st Reading: Ezk 16:1-15, 60-63 or 16:59-63
Gospel: Mt 19:3-12

Some Pharisees approached him. They wanted to test him and asked, "Is a man allowed to divorce his wife for any reason he wants?"

Jesus replied, "Have you not read that in the beginning the Creator *made them male and female*, and he said: *Man has now to leave father and mother, and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one body?* So they are no longer two but one body; let no one separate what God has joined."

They asked him, "Then, why did Moses command us to write a bill of dismissal in order to divorce?" Jesus replied, "Moses knew your stubborn heart, so he allowed you to divorce your wives, but it was not so in the beginning. Therefore I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, unless it be for infidelity, and marries another, commits adultery."

The disciples said, "If that is the condition of a married man, it is better not to marry." Jesus said to them, "Not everybody can accept what you have just said, but only those who have received this gift. Some are born incapable of marriage. Some have been made that way by others. But there are some who have given up the possibility of marriage for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who can accept it, accept it."

Commentary

It is sometimes said that married couples have an advantage over single persons, including priests and nuns, entering heaven because they already passed purgatory and even hell on earth. It is said also that to succeed in married life persons need to wear three rings: engagement ring, wedding ring and suffer-ring. Joking aside, the truth is that life, both single and married, has as much to do with pain and suffering as with joy and love. It is a long life journey, where the needed companionship will mean happiness but many times suffering as well. If we understand the nature and destiny of the human person as a journey towards God under his/her loving design, any difficulty that will come our way will be bearable. Otherwise we will think that the companion is someone we can dispose of when it hurts.

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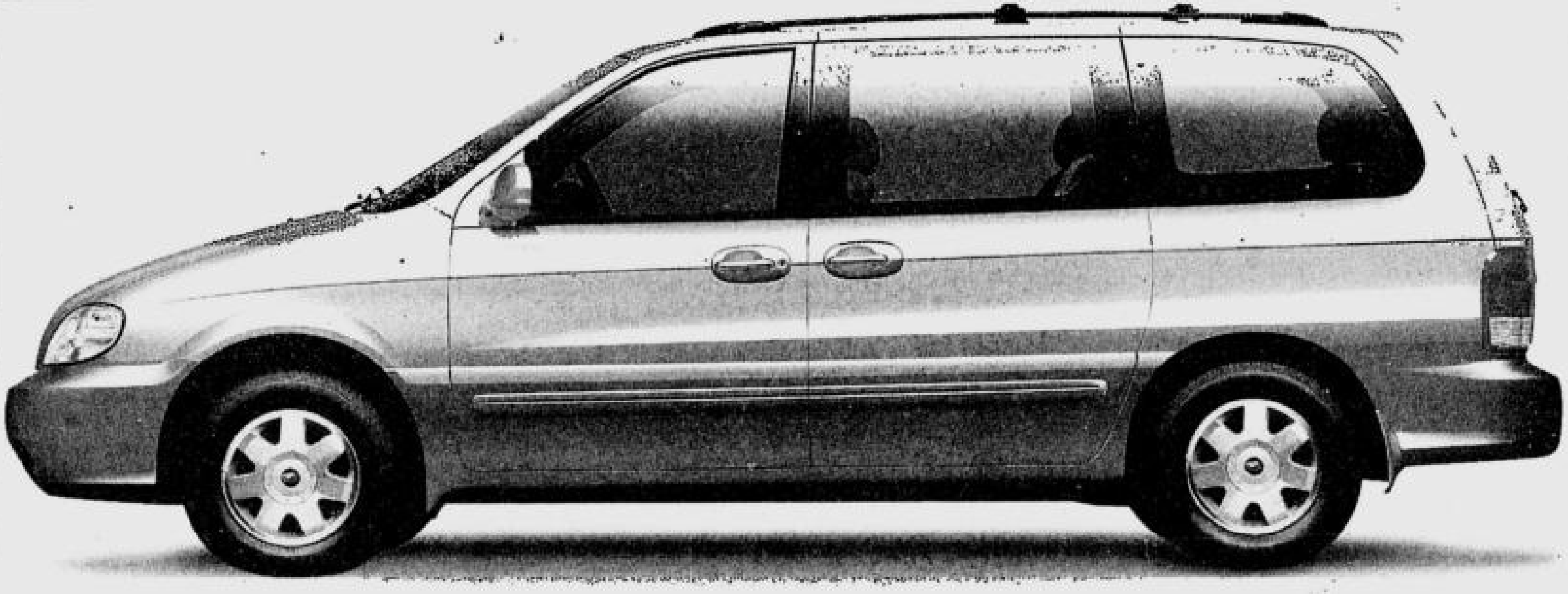

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Speedy justice?

EDITORIAL

NOW Director Reynaldo Wycoco of the National Bureau of Investigation is saying sorry. "We regret that this episode will end this way," Wycoco said after announcing that the NBI was charging LandBank cashier Acsa Ramirez with violating the Anti-Money Laundering Law. "We at the NBI don't enjoy filing charges against anyone. We understand the feelings of (their) families...but we have to do our duty."

No one could have missed the evident sarcasm in Wycoco's statement which was also oozing with insincerity and hypocrisy. In fact, Wycoco seemed to be gloating over what he probably considered to be the crowning achievement of his career: saving the President, the NBI and, above all, himself from public embarrassment of presenting a witness as a criminal.

How? By finally finding grounds to bring to court Ramirez and the cashier she had replaced at the LandBank's Binangonan branch.

It was Ramirez who discovered that P203 million in tax payment had been diverted into private accounts that were later found to be fictitious. She reported the scam, and her immediate boss, branch manager Artemio San Juan, was arrested. The day Ramirez responded to the "invitation" to shed more light on her discovery, President Macapagal-Arroyo was also at the NBI. Right there and then, Ramirez was presented to the media and the whole nation as San Juan's accomplice.

Then Ramirez made her second—and possibly biggest—mistake. She tried to redeem her honor and protect her name by going to the media, protesting her innocence.

To Wycoco that only proved she was guilty. He refused to apologize and set about building a case against Ramirez. Now he says the NBI doesn't have only one, but 11 cases (count them) against Ramirez. That was how many times she had violated the Anti-Money Laundering Law by failing to report transactions involving the movement of P4 million or more. And now she could be jailed for a total of 44 years, Wycoco gleefully announced.

Ramirez denies that she violated the law. She says she reported the transactions to the branch manager, who assured her everything was on the level. In most banks that assurance from the boss is supposed to settle any and all questions about a client.

Did Ramirez satisfy the reporting requirement set by law? That is for her to explain later before the Department of Justice and possibly a court of law.

In the meantime, Wycoco has exacted his pound of flesh and probably made the President mighty pleased. After all she had also refused to apologize for humiliating Ramirez in public and told the NBI to proceed with its investigation. "We must move on with speedy and impartial justice," she said last week.

So this is how justice is dispensed under this administration. First the President presents someone as a criminal to the entire nation, and then the NBI or the police works furiously to build the case against the suspect.

Wycoco now says in hindsight that the filing of the 11 cases against Ramirez only showed that the NBI was right in subjecting her to an investigation. The President wasn't given a bum steer, he claims.

But isn't he the same official who argued that the President "did not categorically announce whether Ramirez was a suspect or not" when the controversy erupted over the presentation of the witness in the P203-million scam? Is he saying the NBI investigated somebody who wasn't even a suspect?

If this is the way Wycoco works, no one is safe from his prying eyes.

Verge of relapse

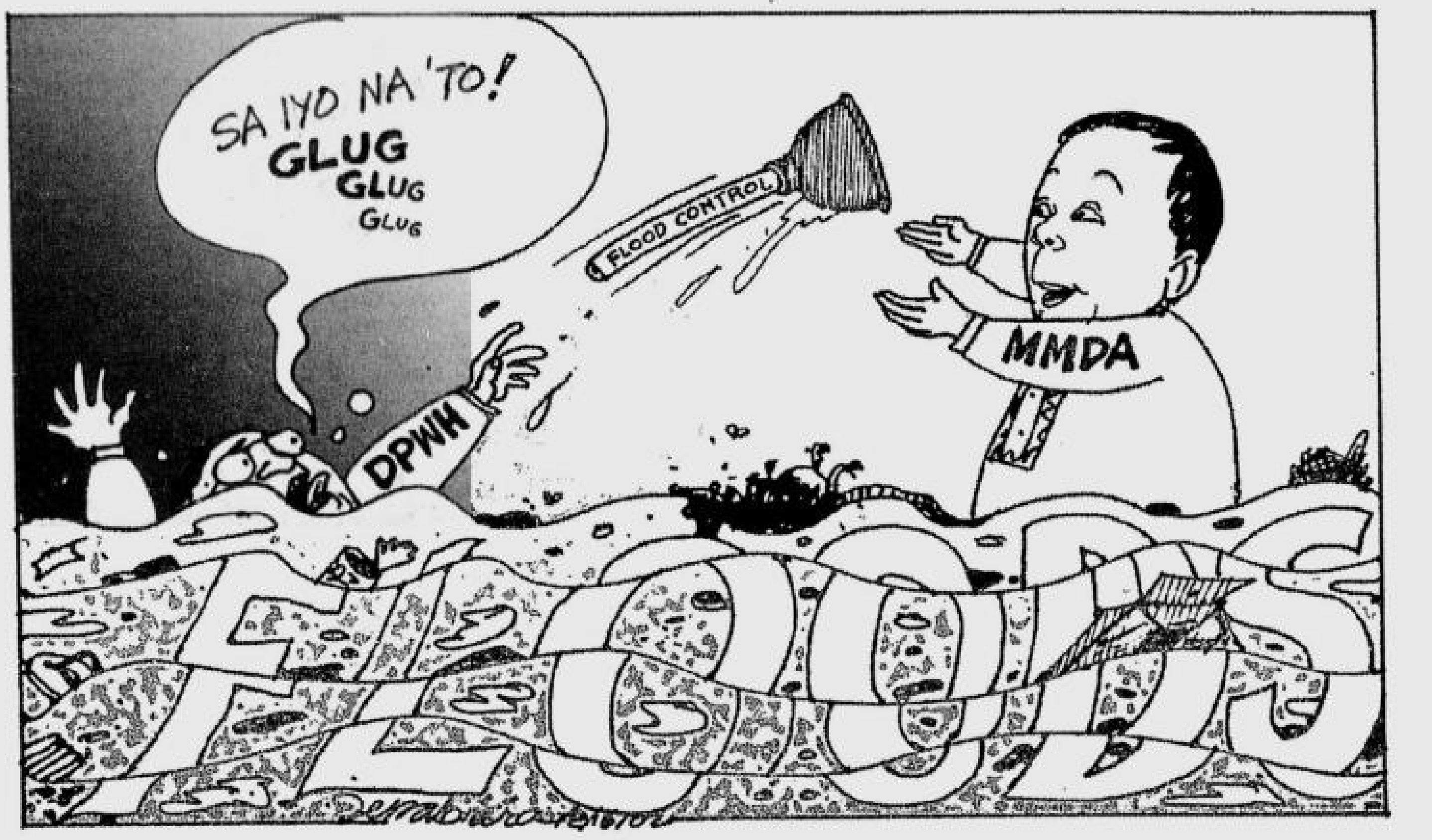
FOREIGN COMMENT

BUSH declared on Monday that he remains optimistic about the American economy, but the more he repeats these statements, the more ineffectual they become. The International Monetary Fund has lowered its projections for American growth, and America is on the verge of a relapse into recession.

These 900 days of falloff in the market approaches the record of the Great Depression. There are fundamental differences between then and now, but there are also similarities: the risk of war, protectionist tensions that could slow down globalization, xenophobic reactions to immigration, an imbalance of the funds accumulated during the boom.

Another cut in the interest rate by the Federal Reserve to its lowest level in 40 years only confirms the gravity of the crisis. When the interest rate approaches zero and business investments remain constant, the economy is imprisoned in that which Keynes called "the snare of liquid assets." As in the 1930s, naturally.

La Repubblica (Rome)



Tribute to a journalism giant

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

JOURNALIST Rod Reyes threw a birthday bash for colleagues and friends at the Power Plant in Rockwell last Monday, had a bomb exploded there during the affair, a third of Philippine media would have been crippled. The biggest concentration of journalists who matter was there. And they were all friends of Rod, which shows how friendly a fellow Rod is.

Bert Nievera and Pinky Marquez sang songs, Gary Lising told green jokes, and former Batangas Gov. Tony Leviste performed his magic tricks. Emcee Johnny Litton joked that Sen. Loren Legarda fell for Tony not because of his looks or charm but because of his magic.

"So that's how he kept winning in the Batangas elections, magic," quipped a guest.

Rod himself went down memory lane as he recalled his journalistic career and ticked off all the journalists he worked with. After working for the government as press secretary and economic representative to Taiwan, Rod said at the end of his remarks that he would like to go back to newspaper reporting.

I fully understand how Rod feels. I think there is no other job more exciting, more fulfilling emotionally, more lofty and with more impact on the nation than newspapering. I will not change it for anything else, even with its demand on one's time and the stress it gives to the practitioner.

Seeing them horsing around merrily, you may think that journalists live carefree, happy-go-lucky lives. In reality, they live very stressful lives, forever chasing information and beating deadlines. Many journalists have hypertension and heart disease—partly because of the stress and partly because of too much smoking, drinking and late nights out—and some have had to undergo heart bypass operations and angioplasties. Rod and I are two of the victims. In fact, both of us have had not one but two heart bypass surgeries and one angioplasty each.

Rod and I started almost at the same time (he was a little ahead of me) at the Manila Chronicle. We were among the group of young journalists recruited by the Chronicle. Sonny Belmonte (now Quezon City mayor) and I were among the youngest, and managing editor Celso Cabrera used to joke that what was coming out of our sex organs was still milk.

When we put up a labor union in the newspaper, management started to put pressure on us. We were not given any assignments although it continued to pay us our salaries. We were not even required to report for work. That may be heaven on earth for many government employees today, but for energetic, eager young journalists that was a dead end.

So we resigned. Rod went to the Manila Times and I went to the Evening News to eventually become its managing editor. Rod made a name for himself, and won a journalism award for penetrating a drug den by masquerading as a drug addict (with his thin and wan appearance, he really looked like one). The other union members went to other organizations and only two, Arnold Moss (now copy editor of Today) and Jimmy Vicente (now with Vice President Teofisto Guingona) stuck it out to the very end. They could have earned doctorate degrees had they gone to universities while they were Chronicle *"pensionados."* We eventually won that labor case, and we collected back wages—though not much for those of us who resigned early.

After the Manila Times (and back to the Chronicle, then back to the Times again), Rod went to ABS-CBN, published his own magazines, then became President Estrada's press secretary and later Meco representative to Taiwan, after which he unsuccessfully tried his hand at politics. I went to the Daily Express as its managing editor and then to the Daily Globe and the Manila Chronicle as editor in chief and then to the INQUIRER.

With his soft voice, shy demeanor and slight frame, those who don't know Rod won't realize that he is a giant in Philippine journalism. Many of us are privileged to have him as a colleague. Happy Birthday Rod.

* * *

No matter how you may hate his printed polo shirts, you cannot deny that Education Secretary Raul Roco is, at present, the best alternative to the presidency. Not only did he top the survey for "presidentiables" (President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo ranked only third, after Roco and Erap), he also was among the best senators in the last Congress who asked the most sensible questions during Erap's impeachment trial.

With him jobless between now and the 2004 elections, he would have all the time to travel the length and breadth of the country, and even to Filipino communities in other countries, to court votes for the 2004 presidential elections. This was what GMA's father, Diosdado Macapagal, did when he was Vice President in the Garcia administration. President Carlos P. Garcia did not give Macapagal, who belonged to the opposition Liberal Party, any work and that gave him all the time to travel all over the Philippines shaking hands. He defeated Garcia in the presidential elections.

Will history repeat itself, ironically, to the Macapagal daughter?

Conclusions

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

COLIN Powell's memorandum reads:

"Today, we are taking an important step in our continuing efforts to combat global terrorism. I am announcing the designation of the Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army (CPP/NPA) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization as defined under US law....The CPP, a Maoist group, was founded in 1969 with the aim of overthrowing the Philippine government through guerrilla warfare. CPP's military wing, the New People's Army, strongly opposes any US presence in the Philippines and has killed US citizens there. The group has also killed, injured, or kidnapped numerous Philippine citizens, including government officials."

On the face of it, it is a clear, direct and forceful definition of a terrorist organization. On the ass of it, it raises a great many questions.

One, the Chinese Communist Party also strongly opposed any US presence in China, and if it did not kill many American citizens when it was fighting the US-backed Chiang Kai-shek government, it was only because they were not to be found plentifully there. It did however kill, injure and kidnap numerous Chinese citizens, including government officials, far more numerous than the CPP/NPA has done or can do. That communist party now governs China. Yet the United States does not condemn it as the rule of a terrorist organization. It eagerly tries to enlarge the scope of its trade with it. It is so eager to penetrate the huge and lucrative Chinese market it has forgotten that that party caused the bloodbath at Tienanmen Square, and indeed that President Carter raised all sorts of human rights issues with it.

The Vietcong strongly opposed US presence in Vietnam and killed numerous Americans to drive home that point. Additionally, they killed, injured and kidnapped numerous Vietnamese citizens and blew up or gunned down government officials. The same people now govern Vietnam, the United States having lost the war, physically and morally, although a slew of Hollywood movies of late has been trying to rewrite history. Yet the United States does not condemn it as the rule of a terrorist organization. It is so eager to restore diplomatic ties with Vietnam it has forgotten the Vietcong sent tens of thousands of American boys in body bags, some of them totally unrecognizably and in many pieces.

That leads to the conclusion that all communist parties are terrorist organizations until they win. When they do, they cease to be a terrorist organization.

Two, Augusto Pinochet and his cabal of generals overthrew the legitimate and popular government of Salvador Allende and "salvaged" or made to disappear thousands of Chileans, quite apart from imprisoning more of them. They did the same thing to scores of American activists in Chile, as Jack Lemmon's movie, "Missing," showed. The various tyrants in Asia, Africa and Latin America that Ronald Reagan propped up did the same thing, but were more careful about American nationals. Ditto for our very own Ferdinand Marcos, whom George Bush Sr., father of the current American president and scourge of Baghdad, toasted for his spirited adherence to democracy. The United States has not prosecuted any one of them for terrorism. Madeleine Albright was even at pains to rescue Pinochet from extradition by Spain, which minded that he massacred Spanish nationals along with Chileans and Americans.

The Contras, the Cuban steak commandos in Miami and similar groups are out to overthrow the governments of Nicaragua, Cuba, and other countries, and have murdered hundreds of people, quite apart from assassinated scores of their officials. They have also been running a lucrative trade in guns and drugs on the side. None of them has fallen in the US State Department's list of terrorists.

That leads to the conclusion that the operative phrase in Powell's memorandum is "strongly opposes any US presence." The "killed US citizens" and "killed, injured, or kidnapped numerous" locals mean nothing, or mean something only in conjunction with the first phrase.

Third, when Iraq refuses to admit a UN team to look at its nuclear stockpile, that is terrorism. When Sharon refuses to admit a UN team to look at Israeli atrocity in the West Bank, that is sovereignty. When Palestinians blow up Israelis along with themselves in pool halls and buses, that is terrorism. Arafat's inability to rein them making him party to their crime. When Sharon expressly orders his thugs, in the guise of the Israeli army, to raze down a civilian quarter in the West Bank, that is sovereignty, his ability to scorn Bush's admonitions to not screw world opinion exempting the United States from blame. When Iraq and Iran and Libya give financial and moral support to groups that strongly oppose American presence, that is terrorism. When the United States openly supports regimes that oppose human rights, that is democracy.

That leads to a corollary to the second conclusion, namely, that a terrorist is simply who America says it is.

Before the start of the 20th century, the United States decided, out of manifest destiny, to seize Puerto Rico, Cuba and the Philippines. The Filipinos had done the Americans no wrong, posed no threat to William McKinley and his minions, and had shown themselves to be fit for self-rule by fighting a war of independence against Spain. In the course of occupying the Philippines, the Americans wiped out by some estimates a tenth of the Filipino population. The American troops, consisting of many veterans of the Indian wars, took every Filipino over 10 to be a hostile and burnt down whole villages. The Filipinos' crime was that they strongly opposed any American presence in the Philippines. That made them, according to Law No. 2, terrorists.

That leads to the conclusion that—well, you make your own conclusions.

* * *

Comments to dequiros@vasia.com

Deadlines

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo staged a quick recovery of her satisfaction rating in the Aug. 6-9, 2002 Social Weather Stations survey. Her rating received a hefty lift from her action to reduce high electricity costs and the decimation of the Abu Sayyaf outlawry.

Unfortunately, this rebound encountered another squall in the controversy over the resignation of Education Secretary Raul Roco from the Cabinet. The fall-out of the resignation will likely be reflected in the next survey. The defining issue for the next survey will be different. The resignation is likely to generate further storm. It is an unwelcome disturbance that mars her popularity.

The President's net satisfaction rating rebounded to plus-28 percent in August from plus-4 percent in the May 17-June survey—her lowest since she took office in January 2001.

Her August rating is the highest since she took office. However, it is only marginally higher than her plus-27 net satisfactory rating in the Nov. 3-21, 2002 survey. The August survey found that 54.9 percent gross were satisfied with her performance, and that 26.5 percent gross were dissatisfied.

The recovery indicates correct policy and decision responses to what was diagnosed as the main cause of the fall of her rating—the public outrage over the PPA (purchased power adjustments). It also validates the President's bold foreign policy decision committing the Philippines uncritically to the US-led international coalition in the war on global terrorism.

The President focused on the electricity fees reduction scheme with a 10-point plan, in the midst of, and even ignoring the crippling stalemate in the Senate provoked by the opposition's attempt to seize control of the chamber last June. The turbulence in the Senate did not seem to have prevented the recovery of her rating. The defeat of the Abu Sayyaf and the rescue of the American hostages in Zamboanga del Norte clearly boosted her rating. Public opinion support for the Balikatan exercises, in which US forces assisted Filipino troops with training and advanced military technology, is indicated by the finding that 67 percent of the respondents say that both the Philippines and the United States benefited from close military cooperation.

The survey findings on the administration's effort to address specific issues bear out the claim by the administration that three factors were mainly responsible for the rebound. Majorities said the administration was doing something about fighting terrorist groups (60 percent), kidnap for ransom syndicates (58 percent), and illegal drug syndicates (56 percent).

The findings, however, are not about results, and there is no question on whether the public approved of the method deployed in fighting crime syndicates, under which suspects were presented for public opprobrium even before they had been investigated properly. It is a mistake for the administration to read into the survey approval of its questionable methods.

The administration, however, received lower ratings on reducing prices of medicines (42 percent favorable versus 38 percent unfavorable), increasing job opportunities (29 percent. versus 41 percent). The rating for garbage management in Metro Manila was 49 percent versus 43 percent, and in easing traffic congestion, 41 percent were satisfied, and 49 percent dissatisfied.

On the question of the President's leadership, which is different from satisfaction, 60.4 percent approved and 19.8 percent disapproved of her leadership. This finding should be a pointer to the President that, first, the people approve of tough leadership; and, second, they accept her for what she is—warts and moles. This means that the people have learned to accept her for what she is—an explosive temper, impatient for results and demanding accomplishments from members of the Cabinet.

The results show that it pays political dividends to be what she is rather than be coiffured by hairdressers passing themselves off as publicists or presidential public relations "consultants."

The survey did not ask whether the public approved her overarching theme of building a "strong republic." It may be hard to capture public opinion on this because a strong republic or a strong state is hard to define or reduce into simple formulations. But the theme seems to have sunk in the high approval rating for the fight against terrorist groups and criminal syndicates.

The President cannot be complacent about public opinion on the performance of her 2001 State of the Nation Address in which she outlined several dozen projects for completion within a year.

Only 38 percent agreed she delivered on her Sona promises, 30 percent disagreed, and 32 percent were undecided. More than 50 percent were skeptical over her claims of accomplishment, revealing she has a credibility problem.

The survey indicates that her policy and program responses have targeted accurately the causes of the fall of her satisfaction rating. Her responses are on track, but this is not saying that the controversial methods deployed in fighting criminality, for example, are also acceptable to the people. Nor should she delude herself into believing that her insensitive ways of handling her allies and Cabinet would enhance her future ratings. Her political alliances are crumbling, her base of political support has narrowed and she has not replaced what she has lost.

Marching for 'All-Out Peace'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

SO, according to the latest Social Weather Stations survey, Filipinos like the newer, tougher President Macapagal-Arroyo. By projecting the image of a leader who's tough on crime and criminals, frowning with disdain as all sorts of lowlife—from smugglers to kidnappers, from embezzlers to tax cheats and even a hapless witness-turned-suspect—are paraded before her, Ms Macapagal it would seem has established her crime fighter credentials.

She didn't even have to don a bullet-proof vest to win her anti-crime stripes. All she had to do was talk tough, look tough (or as tough as a woman could in a raw silk suit) and back the law enforcement establishment all the way. This, even when they've clearly blundered and even publicly embarrassed her. Could it be our fearless lady leader is actually a prisoner of her image?

If it were only all for show, there wouldn't be a problem with the President courting the law-and-order vote. Sure, such nitpicking creatures like human rights lawyers have brought up the trivial problem of the constitutional presumption of innocence until proven guilty. But the majority of the public, I would guess, would be happy enough if the show-and-tell of criminals resulted in breaking up even a few syndicates and gangs.

* * *

THE PROBLEM is, the rhetoric and show of resolve has gone beyond photo ops and tough talk. In the air is the corrosive language of "all-out war," as President Macapagal, perhaps taking a leaf from the Erap book of political survival, now threatens to expand the "war" against criminality to an actual, full-scale war against groups with whom the government is supposed to be negotiating for peace.

A new alliance for peace, calling themselves the "All-Out Peace" Groups, have issued a statement calling on "leaders of both sides to stop this playing with fire, using the language of 'all-out war' in so serious a matter where the lives of people, including soldiers of both sides, are at stake."

The "All-Out Peace" Groups warn that the country, struggling with the heavy burdens of poverty, "cannot afford the heavy costs of war, especially in terms of human suffering and the high reconstruction cost the ravages of war would entail." Neither the military nor the rebel groups would benefit from a resumption of conflict, the groups said. "More than 30 years of armed conflict should have shown to all warring parties now the futility of aspiring for a military victory over the other side."

Thus, the "All-Out Peace" Groups appeal for all sides in the conflicts to "put a premium on the peace negotiations, as one of several paths to just and lasting peace."

To dramatize their call, the "All-Out Peace" Groups will launch a "peace action" next Tuesday, Aug. 20, starting at 9 a.m. from the lobby/steps of the UP Diliman Arts and Sciences building, with the peace ralliers then marching toward Katipunan Avenue where they will meet up with students, teachers and concerned sectors from Ateneo, Miriam College and St. Bridget's. All peace-loving folk are invited.

* * *

TO FOCUS the world's attention on the plight of children around the world, but especially in the developing world, the International Youth Foundation launched in 1999 a global campaign called the "Children's Hour."

The campaign was based on a premise so simple and workable it could only succeed. Workers the world over were asked to pledge one hour's wage to be used by groups working for the welfare of children. They thus hoped to make the last working hour of the millennium an hour dedicated to children, the "Children's Hour."

The "Children's Hour" was able to raise $13 million by May 2000, with employees of 10,000 companies in 52 countries donating one hour's wage and in some cases, with management matching the amount raised by their workers.

In the Philippines, the "Children's Hour" campaign was able to raise close to P40 million, with the funds raised helping over 88,000 Filipino children and youth through NGOs engaged in preventive and rehabilitative services, temporary shelter, feeding and nutrition programs, basic health services and education.

Bienvenido Tan Jr., who chaired the screening committee for beneficiaries, said that in selecting NGOs to be supported by the campaign, they sought out small, local groups who could provide services at the basic community level. Only two national organizations—Bantay Bata and Centex—were chosen as beneficiaries.

* * *

LAST Wednesday, a new "Children's Hour" campaign was launched at the Glorietta Activity Center, with former President Cory Aquino, as honorary chair, leading the rites.

The focus of the "Children's Hour," as in the first campaign, is to raise money for children's causes by asking all salaried workers to pledge an hour's wage. Individuals could also contribute their share by depositing their donations into a special Bank of the Philippine Islands account, or even by texting their pledges via Globe.

With a steering committee chaired by Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, with Gina Lopez as vice chair, and counting among its members representatives of the country's business leadership, it should be no sweat to match or even exceed the 1999 total. But that is not the point.

The point, they said, is for every Filipino, regardless of stature or personal wealth, to feel he or she could contribute to the betterment of society. Regardless of the final amount raised, the "Children's Hour" is a worthwhile effort at building a nation by tapping into the sense of compassion and generosity of even its humblest citizens.

Dealing with the weather

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

LAST Tuesday, around midday, on my way to the Ateneo College chapel, I saw students standing around an electronic sign board. All eyes were on a monitor slowly giving out the weather report. After a slight hush, mouths agape, the announcement came—classes were suspended from noon—this was followed by wild cheering and general rejoicing. All the money in the world could not buy the look on those happy faces. The only time I see such joy is when Ateneo wins a basketball game against De La Salle. Of course, I was also happy to be spared three more hours of teaching that afternoon, but unlike students a professor shouldn't jump and clap at the loss of an afternoon of learning. To hide my smile I looked at my feet and discovered I had worn shoes that didn't match. Had I lectured that day my students would have noticed three missing buttons on my shirt and my mismatched shoes. It was my birthday, but it definitely was not my day. I didn't even attempt to write a column.

Liberated from teaching and my INQUIRER deadline, I met with two colleagues and decided to have lunch off campus. Traffic was bad, grade school, high school, college and graduate school students were all trying to get out all at the same time. Unable to leave the campus by car I parked near the pedestrian overpass and suggested we walk to the restaurant but Katipunan was flooded. We had no boots and only one umbrella. We ended up eating *inihaw na baboy* by the basketball court.

This experience made us rethink the suspension of classes that day. Perhaps it would have been better to keep students indoors and try and run the rest of the day as normally as possible. Dismissal would have been staggered, we would not have added to the already horrendous traffic, and parents didn't have to worry about their children braving rain and flood to get home. As luck would have it, things brightened up around 2 p.m. I bumped into Queena Lee-Chua who declared, "the best way to improve weather in this country is to suspend classes." We presume the decision to suspend classes is made after getting a weather update from Pagasa, a road report from the MMDA, an update from the National Disaster Coordinating council, etc.

When I was a boy I never knew the name of the education secretary but I knew the name, voice and face of Education Undersecretary Nilo Rosas (now president of Philippine Normal University) because it was he who declared a storm holiday in the National Capital Region. Dr. Rosas made me wonder what it was like to have the authority to suspend classes and make students happy. When I was president of the City College of Manila I had my chance to exercise this power. It was raining for the better part of a day, the dean came in and recommended that I suspend classes from noon. Escolta was flooded and students had to enter the building by balancing on a narrow bench. I suspended classes and was very pleased with myself until City Hall called two days later asking me to explain why I called off classes without a typhoon warning or Department of Education announcement. No matter that the school lobby had water thigh-deep, I needed a typhoon signal No. 3 or Dr. Rosas to suspend classes.

Looking up the index of the 55-volume compilation of historical documents, "The Philippines Islands 1493-1898," edited by Blair and Robertson, there were a number of references on weather: clouds, rain and floods, thunder and lightning, waterspouts, rainbows, snow and ice, storms (which were called by various names baguios, gales, hurricanes, samatras, tempests, tornadoes, typhoons, whirlwinds, etc.) and winds (of different types: bonanzas, brisas, monsoons, vendavals, tradewinds, etc.). One could write a learned dissertation on these references alone so I chose from the 1604 book of the Jesuit Pedro Chirino who described Taytay, Rizal as being so low it was flooded from August to November each year. He even compared this with the annual overflowing of the Nile in Egypt:

"This inundation not only flooded the village—to such an extent that the streets could be traversed only in boats, in which I went often enough—but also, although the floor of the church had been raised and repairs made to guard against the water, it flowed in over the steps, even to the main altar..."

For Mass, people went to nearby Antipolo. But unlike today when we see floods as a nuisance, Chirino in the 17th century wrote:

"At this period the valley itself becomes a lagoon...and can be traversed only by means of boats. This inundation abundantly fertilizes the rice fields and seeded lands with which the valley is covered, and, as a result, rich and abundant harvests are gathered. The water enters at the proper season when the rice stalks are hardening and are beginning to ear; consequently the copious irrigation helps it to form seed without hindering the grain from hardening, or the harvest from being gathered. On the contrary, it is a convenience, as I myself have often seen, to go in the boats for reaping, and in those boats to bring the bundles of grain to the houses where they are exposed to the sun to dry..."

One can either curse the weather or see it in a positive way. Your disposition can either make or break your day.

* * *

Comments are welcome at ambeth@admu.edu.ph

Regrets

HIGH BLOOD

Denis Murphy

WE'D also like to know the concerns of the sixtysomething and above, what makes their blood pressure rise or makes them sit back, content that all's well with their world and with themselves. —Ed.

NEWSPAPERS and TV have shown us time and again the bent-over Pope, barely able to read a speech or walk a few steps. He seems to accept his weakness patiently enough, which may surprise some: he was never famous for his patience.

The other day I watched Jaime Cardinal Sin at the consecration of the Ateneo's university church and it was much the same. The cardinal, too, can hardly walk. He seems to be in pain.

They've grown old before us. Cardinal Sin was in his mid-40s when he became archbishop of Manila in 1974. He was full of joy then and made everyone around him happy, except perhaps the Marcoses. The Pope came into office four years after. Remember the sheer physical energy he showed on his first trip to Poland as Pope. How hesitant the Polish communist leaders looked in contrast. Now all that has changed.

The Pope's warnings about the primacy of spirit and culture over material things and "a civilization of love" still speak powerfully to us despite the flat monotone voice, and he still has the affection of the young. But the cardinal is spared hearing, as the Pope hears often, voices of people suggesting he step down since he is, they believe, an obstacle to the Church's development.

A person wonders what a pope or a cardinal regrets. Surely they must regret something: as Graham Greene says in "The Human Factor": "You can't reason about regret—it's like falling in love, into regret." We don't know of course but we can speculate.

As I watched Cardinal Sin in his chair at the side of the altar, I thought, he is the last in the long line of powerful archbishops of Manila who have played such an important role in the country's history. Kings and dictators had to respect their power. Now the archdiocese, insiders say, will be broken up into four or five smaller dioceses. There will no longer be one strong Church voice speaking in the capital, but four or five voices, and chances are they will not agree on many matters. It will be interesting to see how governments deal with the new Church situation: a natural temptation would be to attempt to divide the bishops on political matters. This happened in Latin America, for example, in Sao Paulo. It also happened during martial law here.

Who knows if the cardinal worries about such things these days.

I wondered what the cardinal would want to do over if he had the chance. What did he regret? Would it have something to do with the Church's failure to become the church of the poor as the Church's official documents have urged for many years? Perhaps he knows he will be the last archbishop of Manila who will have the power to make such a change from the top. Change may come from other directions.

How can the Church of Manila become the church of the poor? How can it escape the pull of the middle- and upper-class culture of its priests and leaders, and work alongside the poor? It's a harder task than reorienting a government to serve the poor. A government can serve the poor for political reasons, and it doesn't make much difference to the poor as long as they are remembered. Church reorientation, however, requires an inner conversion of values on the part of the priests and leaders, something hard to come by.

The cardinal may wonder what might have happened if he had made different men bishops. What if he had rewarded the men who did try to live their lives with the poor? What if he had called for dramatic action on the problem as he had at Edsa I and Edsa II?

What does the Pope regret in his pontificate? To be honest he doesn't appear to be a man who does much second guessing. On meeting the Pope some years ago, the former editor of the Jesuit magazine America introduced himself by telling the Pope his magazine was a journal of opinion. "Who's opinion?" the Pope asked. Yours, I hope, Holy Father," the editor explained. "Good," the Pope said and that was that.

The story hits off the Pope's self confidence. And yet there must be regrets. Maybe he regrets he didn't do a better job in Manila on his two visits to this country. Perhaps that's why he plans to come again in January.

Denis Murphy is over 60 and works with the Urban Poor Associates.

Married 60 years

Nena Ortreras Tiukinhoy

"LOVE is like the wind, you feel it but you can't see it." This is a line from the movie "A Walk to Remember." For the passionately romantic the film was superbly emotional. It was heart-wrenching that after the screening I vowed to come back for a repeat to cry some more after the bucketful of tears I already shed. I was sure all those who saw it had only tears in their eyes and came out overwhelmed by it all. I was literally dragged by my granddaughter, Tweetchay, who knew I would like it, being an incurable romantic. True enough, for the ill-starred, ill-fated lovers came the moment of truth when the leading man found out that his lady love was dying of terminal cancer. Nothing could be done for her. To make the story short, they got married anyway in spite of the devastating truth. It was a walk to remember indeed. The scriptwriter gave us that element of surprise at the end that gives the moviegoer the satisfaction that all's well with the world and themselves, too.

As I write this, I am reminded that 60 years ago, at 19, I fell in love and vowed to honor, love, cherish etc. etc. The marriage is now 60 years old and 13 children ago. Love indeed was felt "like the wind" when I first saw him. Of course, the writer is now in her 79th wintry year with aching limbs and joints aside from being the grandmother of 32 grandchildren.

It's amazing to realize that there are 13 of us (well, 15 to be exact) in the family. No population control then. It is a thing of awe to consider that all of us, when in church, occupied the first two pews in front of the altar. We survived through all these years. After all, these are God's gifts of life. An American clinical psychologist who has been practicing family therapy for 30 years in Indiana, USA has this to say: "No one should ever get married before they're 30. The period from birth to 18 is an organizational period. Eighteen to 30 is an exploration period of your life—you're exploring career, relationships, really finding out who you are." Well stated. But in my case it was a time of war and nobody could tell what would happen next. It was providential that my heart dictated what was best for me. I never regretted my decision.

A great bind indeed! Sixty years is great to have the same soulmate. It's a big bonus given to us by God.

Nena Ortreras Tiukinhoy, 79, is a grandmother of 32 from her 13 children in all of her 60 years of blissful marriage—a diamond celebration.

Should price ceilings be set for necessary medicines?

A DRUG multinational in India producing the same branded medicines as the drug multinational company here, can easily e-mail the sister company here for the same kind of medicines the Philippine government likes to import from India in limited quantity. The government wants to sell to the people cheap medicines through public hospitals and other official outlets.

By this means two birds are hit, without firing a shot: (1) it will save the government time, effort, and wasteful hassle doing the so-called "parallel importation"; (2) it will look "altruistic and charitable" for the greedy MNC shaving its profits to please the public with some limited "cheap" medicines made available at a reduced price procured by the government. This looks like a "win-win" situation except for the Filipino consumers who are the immediate victims of this international charade with the complicity of the Philippine government.

Why? This "parallel importation" runs roughshod over the spirit of the Generic Act of 1988 (Republic Act 6678) by popularizing over-priced branded drugs over equally effective generics. The difference in prices of common medicines for common illnesses runs between 600 percent and 1,800 percent. Take Ponstan 500 mg capsule, an analgesic/antipyretic. Metro Manila retail costs P18.50; imported by the Department of Health from India and sold in limited outlets, it costs P5.40. But the equally effective generic counterpart of this mefenamic acid is only P0.95.

The suspicion popularized by medical practitioners cohabiting with drug MNCs is that many generics are fake. It is senseless, if not stupid, to fake an already cheap medicine to gain a foothold on the retail market which incidentally is 95 percent controlled by expensive products of the MNCs. They sell drugs at unconscionably high prices. This is the reason why the Citizens' Alliance for Consumer Protection wants President Macapagal-Arroyo to put a ceiling on common medicines for common illnesses that have killed many Filipinos, especially the poor. There's a law called the Price Act (RA 7581) giving the President the power to enforce price ceilings.

This is not a price control that drug MNCs and some benighted DOH officials would like to make it appaer to be, to frighten foreign investors. Establishing a price ceiling is a form of rationalizing prices of common medicines for common illnesses like diarrhea, respiratory diseases, infections, high blood pressure, gout, arthritis and common thrombotic attacks, all of which have become "popular" causes of suffering and mortality in the country.

—RAUL E. SEGOVIA,
chair, Citizens' Alliance for Consumer Protection (CACP),
2864-C Zamora St.,
Pasay City

Not a party to vehicle repair scam

I HAVE learned from newspaper reports that I am now supposedly under administrative investigation for allegedly failing to report the anomalous repairs of vehicles of the Department of Public Works and Highways.

I wish to clarify that I am not being accused of participating in any capacity, whether directly or indirectly, in the irregularities alleged. I have read the audit report and I am definitely not among the 41 DPWH employees being implicated, directly or indirectly.

What I am being accused of is "administrative neglect of duty" for failing to report the alleged irregularities. But even this lesser charge can find no basis in my official decisions and actions.

Documents covering disbursements for the repair of department vehicles do not pass through my desk. They do not even pass through the desk of my secretary.

The documents implicate DPWH employees at a level of seniority no higher than two levels below me—well beneath my day-to-day span of effective control.

Nonetheless, I know exactly who these 41 officers and employees are, and they know who they are. They also know that I am blameless.

I have been a public servant for nearly 30 years. I have served as DPWH assistant secretary and undersecretary under four presidents. Through all those years, I have kept my integrity and my honor unsullied, as well as the name, integrity and honor of my family.

I am certain that in the end, an appropriate administrative inquiry will clear my name. I know that I will be fully vindicated. The speedier the inquiry, the closer I will be brought to this outcome. I am confident that, in the end, God will give me justice.

—MABINI F. PABLO,
undersecretary, Department of Public Works and Highways

Comments used out of context

IN BEHALF of the National Federation of Labor Unions-Kilusang Mayo Uno (Naflu-KMU) I would like to comment on the news report, titled "Can a CBA without a wage increase be signed?" last June 24, 2002. The article included quotes taken when I was interviewed by one of your reporters. It carried no byline so I presume that the article was written by one of the editors.

First I would like to clarify that the answers I gave in the interview were in response to your reporter's question regarding "some businessmen's perception that the KMU is only good for launching strikes and closing down companies," and was not made in reference to the collective bargaining agreement between the Pasar management and the Concerned Organization of Pasar Progressive Employees for Reform-National Federation of Labor Unions, Kilusang Mayo Uno (Copper-Naflu-KMU). Thus, my quotes were used out of context.

While it is true that the Naflu leadership respects the autonomy of its member unions, its leading bodies reserve the right to study and act on matters which may adversely affect the welfare of union members such as CBAs which are below standard. We consider a CBA to be below standard if its major provisions are less than what the members enjoyed in the immediately preceding CBA or if the CBA is less than what workers from similar companies are receiving. The recently concluded CBA in Pasar is an example of an agreement that is below standard. The leadership is now studying the CBA and the negotiations and will surely take appropriate action.

Second, considering the timing of the news article, the readers might get the impression that Naflu-KMU supports the position of the Employers' Confederation of the Philippines (Ecop) to implement a moratorium on wage increases in the CBAs. The Ecop position came out in your paper a couple of days before the article on Pasar was published. We do not agree with blanket impositions. The just and reasonable demands we present in CBA negotiations are primarily based on the financial situation of individual enterprises. We also take into account the conditions of the workers, the union, the company's profitability, and the state of the economy. Besides, representatives of big business have uniformly used the situation of small and medium enterprises to thwart our economic demands and preserve their large profit margins.

Finally the members of Copper-Naflu-KMU could not help but ratify the CBA that was signed last May 9. Management has been known to entice workers to agree to questionable provisions in the CBAs by dangling seemingly large signing bonuses and lump-sum payments. Still, some Pasar workers may have genuinely believed management's pronouncements that a moratorium is necessary for Pasar's survival and everyone's continued employment. Thus they sacrificed a wage hike in exchange for job security. Even as I was writing this, we received news that Pasar, led by chair and president Carlos C. Dominguez, laid off 61 regular workers, 48 supervisors and numerous contractual workers. This wave of retrenchment does not look like it is going to be the last. So much for "true transparency."

—JOSELITO V. USTAREZ,
national president, Naflu-KMU,
528 R. Vicencio St.,
Mandaluyong City

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Should the government apologize to LBP cashier Acsa Ramirez?

VOICES ON INQ7.NET

IF I were the multimillion LandBank funds scam whistle-blower, I would not waste another breath wondering if I should file a lawsuit against the NBI for presenting her as one of the suspects. I will sue not for the money but to establish jurisprudence protecting victims of such blunders in the future and as a legal means to keep our authorities always on their toes.

Every proceeding of that press conference fiasco was recorded by cameramen and photojournalists. The allegation was witnessed and reported by tri-media reporters providing nationwide publicity on the baseless accusation, not to mention the global clout of the websites of some of these media entities.

For putting a stop to massive malversation of public funds, the cashier was branded a criminal. For expecting to be congratulated by the President, she was stared at "for being a thief." A very traumatic and costly amount of damage has been done. And no amount of apology can gloss that over.

If the NBI can commit a blunder of such magnitude, I wonder if someone is rotting in jail at this moment, also because of wrong feedback or intelligence report.—**nodale**

* * *

Having committed such egregious blunders before, another law enforcement agency of the government this time has managed to top all the previous faux pas by unforgivably portraying the whistle-blower of the LandBank tax diversion scam as one of the culprits herself!

Worse, and to top it all off, Wycoco is trying to wiggle out of the bind by putting up lame excuses and insinuating that she is equally guilty of the offense!

No less than the President herself must right the grievous wrong done to her person and family by publicly correcting the impression her portrayal left in the public's mind and at the same time making a public apology for such immeasurable public humiliation. So, too, must Wycoco do the same thing and more; he should rectify the error he himself committed and then he should keep his mouth shut afterwards and not try to justify his stupidity any longer.

And I thought only Estrada could manage such height of incompetence. It turns out Wycoco can even surpass Estrada hands down.

Imagine the head of the premier criminal investigative agency in the Philippines accusing a person of being one of the conspirators of the crime he is investigating but who later turns out to be his very own star witness in the same case? Is he really sane and sober?

Such monumental incompetence leaves Wycoco no other recourse but to resign posthaste! Now!

And then later on, he should whack himself in the forehead for taking on things obviously far beyond the range and capacity of his mental faculties!—**Rolly S.**

* * *

It's Gloria who should apologize for her subordinate. It was Gloria who "spearheaded" this tough stance on corruption and criminality by whipping the asses of her subordinates to work (which is great).

If she can smile in photo ops with fallen criminals, she should be as ready to apologize for any blunders made along the way.

Once she does, the "package" is complete—her drive against criminality will be a whole lot more credible. She can't expect us to see a perfect drive given the knowledge that we have of how stupid some law enforcers can be.

Go Gloria—apologize. But do not forget to give the erring officials a piece of your famous temper.—**Liza**

* * *

There are sectors in society who wait eagerly for these "blunders" made by the President and use these to encourage non-support for her drive against crime.

If it was an honest mistake the only right thing to do is to apologize.

But Gloria is not budging one bit. She says the NBI has to clear Acsa Ramirez first before she herself clears Ramirez. Wow. How presidential can she get?

This brings us to the NBI and Wycoco. They certainly should do the investigation fast and either clear Ramirez, or vindicate themselves from their "blunder." *Ganoon lang.* Let's not get too hot about this.—**code red**

* * *

I beg to disagree...Our social and political problems abound because we have yet to learn how to identify our problems and their solutions objectively.

It should be NBI Director Wycoco who should make the apology on his and Gloria's behalf.

Why? It's true it was Gloria who made the statements accusing Ramirez. BUT (a big but, for emphasis) Gloria would not have committed the blunder if Wycoco and his men did their job well—which includes properly identifying and introducing Ms Ramirez to Gloria before and during the press conference!

Apparently, up to the last minute prior to the press conference, Wycoco did not have yet a complete picture of the case. Otherwise, a responsible person like him would have avoided the blooper.

Also, Wycoco was caught on camera pointing at Ms Ramirez for identification before Gloria and the media!

If we don't know how to identify the core or root of a problem, barking up the wrong tree is what you call shooting from the hip—à la Rambo style.

I understand the concern, but hitting the wrong target is exactly what the biased Gloria critics (who would jump on any issue, rightly or wrongly, to stomp on her) love to hear from otherwise sincere critics.—**nodale**

* * *

The presentation of suspects should stop. This practice violates the rights of the suspects. Even though we can presume those presented are really criminals, if there are any innocent people are presented there by mistake, it will violate the rights and may forever damage the reputation of these people.

This defective process should stop, even though it helped previous crimebusters like Erap, Lacson and Lim gain political mileage and popularity and is evidently being used by Gloria also. It is not proper and the lawmakers are right to pursue the passage of a law to prevent this practice.—**Karaniwang_ Tao**

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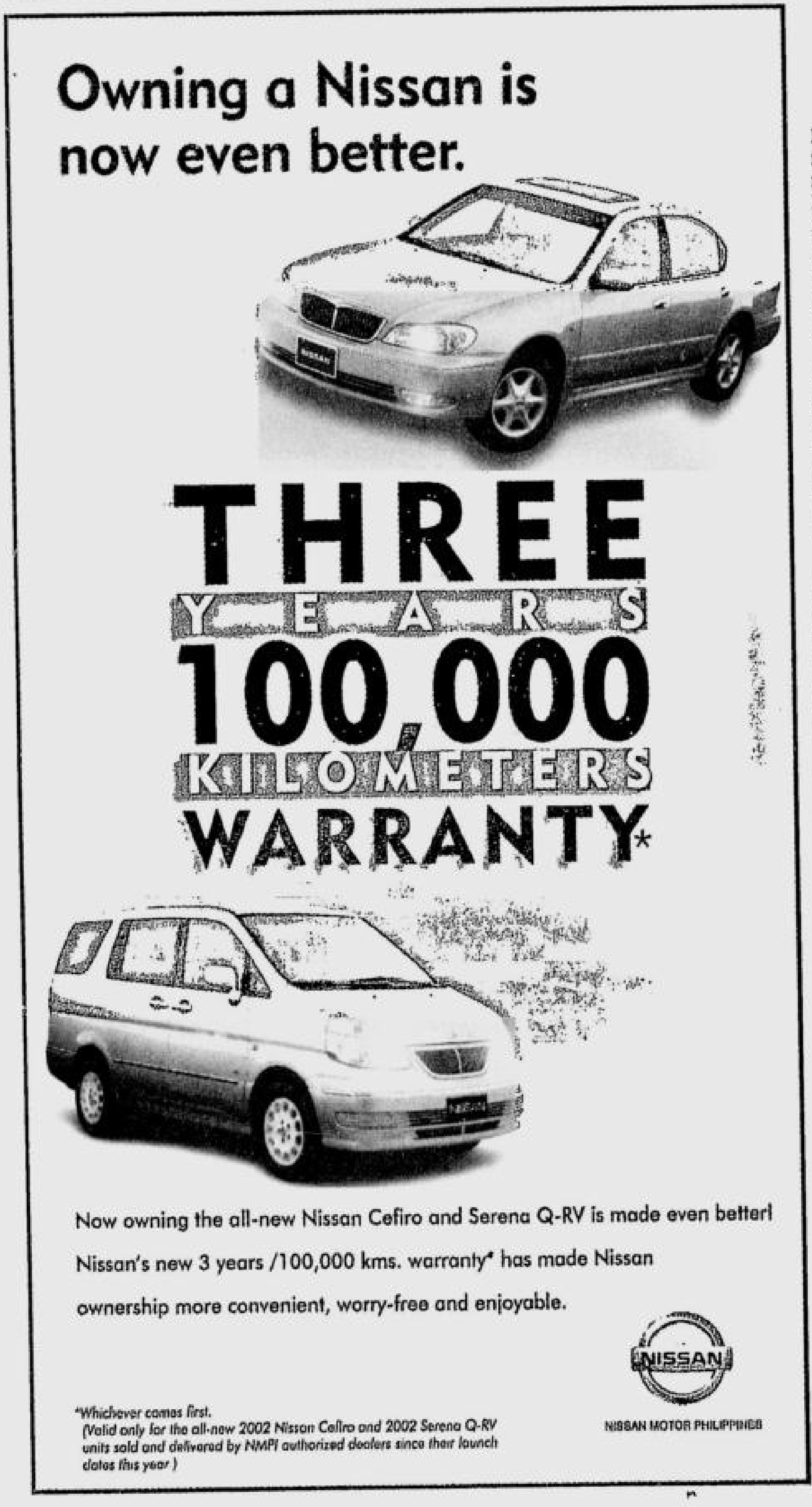

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EVP
EVER VALUE PLUS
August 5 to September 1, 2002

Item	Size	Before	EVP PRICE
Winner Corned Beef	150g	P 11.25	P 10.75
555 Squid in Natural Ink	155g	P 12.00	P 11.25
Knorr Chicken Cube Pantry	60g	P 20.25	P 19.50
Lucky Me Supreme Wok-Savory Shrimp		P 16.00	P 15.75
Magnolia Fresh Milk	450g	P 43.00	P 41.50
Nido Full Cream Milk Powder	450g	P 97.25	P 95.25
Gina Mango Nectar Tetra	1Liter	P 47.00	P 44.50
Shark Energy Drink		P 19.25	P 17.50
Gina Canned Peas		P 5.50	P 5.00
Zest-O Dalandan Soda		P 10.50	P 10.00
Food Fab Mix		P 127.75	P 121.00
Kitkat Orange 4F		P 14.00	P 12.75
Pepsi Twist	500ml	P 10.25	P 9.50
Milk Magic UHT Full Cream Milk	1Liter	P 32.00	P 31.00
Milo Refill	1kg	P 116.00	P 113.75
Nesvita Natural Cerial Drink		P 7.75	P 7.25
Lady's Choice Sandwich Spread		P 74.50	P 70.75
Happy Day Apple Juice	1Liter	P 17.25	P 7.25
Wrigleys Juicy Fruit Pellets		P 36.00	P 32.50
Gardenia High Fiber Wheat Bread	600g	P 42.00	P 39.00
Datu Puti Spiced Vinegar	500ml	P 18.50	P 16.75
Mama Sita's Labuyo Chili Sauce		P 54.25	P 49.00
Cleene Absorbent Cotton	50g	P 18.25	P 17.50
Fundador 36%	1Liter	P 393.00	P 366.00
Adams Ale Sport Lemon Berry		P 37.00	P 35.00
Monde Tini Wini Choco Fudge		P 4.75	P 4.50
Rexona Mini Stick Sport		P 16.25	P 15.50
Ariel Powder Refill		P 117.50	P 114.50
Napoleon V.S.O.P.	750ml	P 179.00	P 168.00
C.Y. Gabriel Medicated Soap	60g	P 12.50	P 11.75
Ysa Botanica w/ Papaya Soap	130g	P 27.75	P 26.25
FA Soap For Men	125g	P 25.25	P 24.00
Johnson & Johnson Baby Cologne Powder Mist	125ml	P 49.50	P 47.00
Johnson & Johnson Baby Powder Classic	200g	P 39.00	P 38.50
Khong Guan Four Seasons		P 135.75	P 129.00
Tide Nature Fresh Powder		P 54.50	P 53.00
Axion DW Paste Orange Fantasy		P 45.00	P 42.75
Dr. P Adult Diaper Unisex Large 8's		P 231.00	P 218.50
Pledge Lemon		P 142.50	P 135.50
Albatross New Imp Toilet Bowl Cleaner		P 33.50	P 32.00
Kiddie Pillow Set		[illegible]	P 84.75
Tulip 063Y(28cmx38cm) T-CB-28-38		P 243.75	P 204.75
USA Fashion Vacuum Pillow White 18x28		P 203.75	P 171.75
Ultima 18"Ind Fan w/ SSt&RB#1820TS		P 1,604.75	P 1,529.75
Family Alcohol Green		P 29.50	P 28.75
Gillete Vector Razor w/1 Refill		P 46.75	P 44.25

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August 19 to September 30, 2002
Johnson-Johnson Kimbles Lactum Tender Care GAINPLUS CERELAC NIDO
See Posters for details

Ever Fresh Corner
August 15 to August 28, 2002

Item	EVP Price
Native Tomato	P 22.00/kilo
Cabbage Scorpio	P 43.00/kilo
Jupiter Beef Cubes	P 140.00/kilo
Jupiter Pigue B/O	P 110.00/kilo
Watermelon Green Sugarbaby	P 22.00/kilo
Monterey Porkchop S/L	P 123.00/kilo
Monterey Ground Beef	P 99.00/kilo
Bangus 600g	P 74.00/kilo

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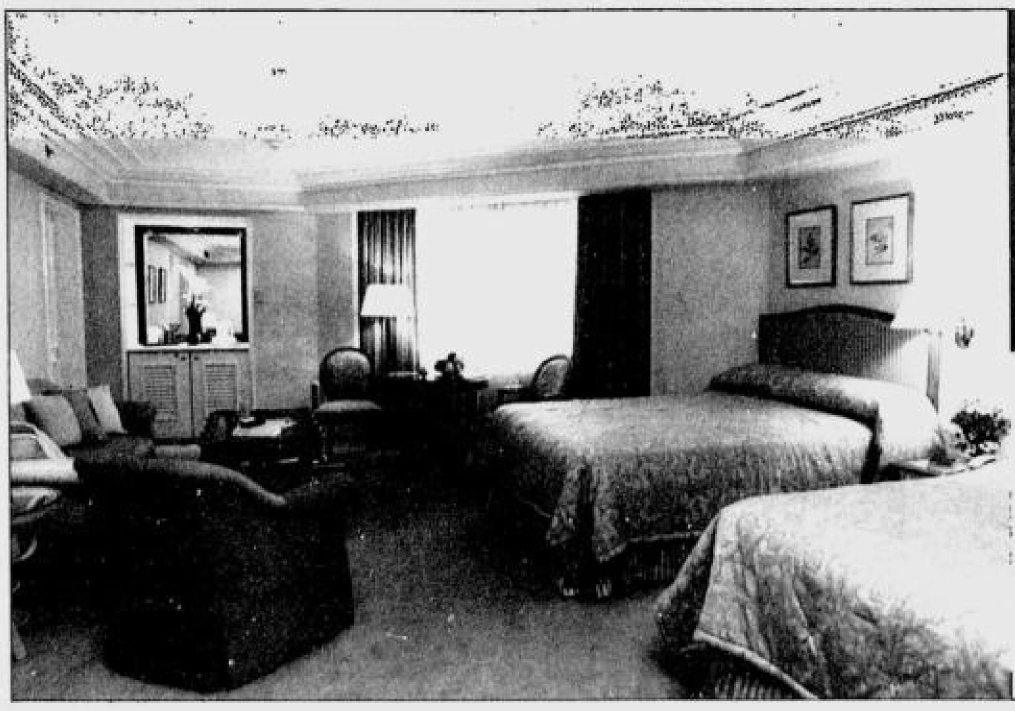

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- *Valid to local residents only*
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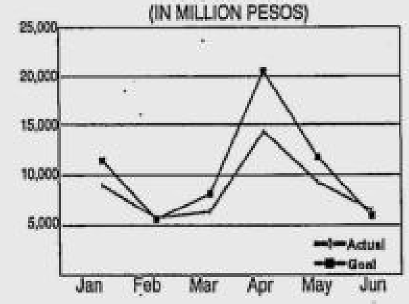
BIR COLLECTION PERFORMANCE MONITOR

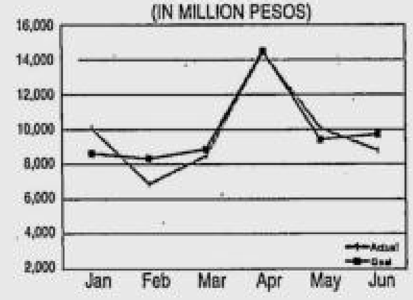
2002 Second Quarter Collection based on Consolidated Monthly Statistics of Revenue Collection under BIR Form No. 12.09

The Bureau of Internal Revenue, in its continuing effort to promote transparency and accountability in the administration and collection of taxes, hereby presents the second quarter Collection Performance Monitor (CPM) for taxable year 2002. The CPM, which is published quarterly, is part of a broader program of the BIR to institutionalize a performance-based culture in tax administration. Other public information documents are also being published on a regular basis.

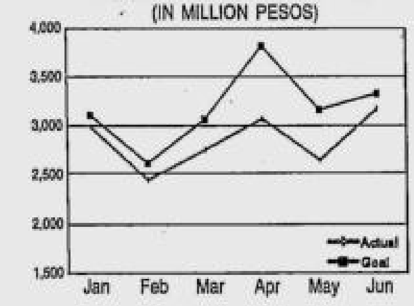
LARGE TAXPAYERS SERVICE INCOME TAX (IN MILLION PESOS)



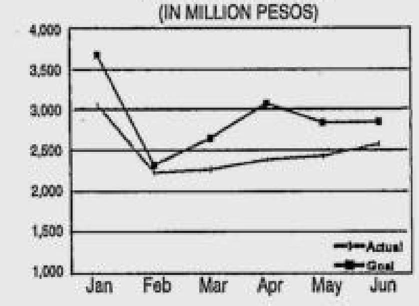
REVENUE REGIONS INCOME TAX (IN MILLION PESOS)



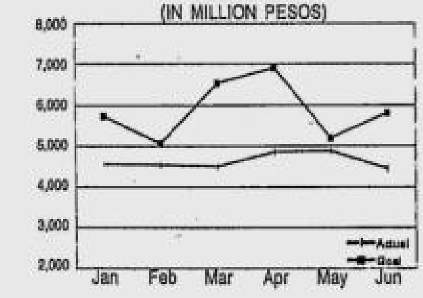
LARGE TAXPAYERS SERVICE VAT (IN MILLION PESOS)



REVENUE REGIONS VAT (IN MILLION PESOS)



LARGE TAXPAYERS SERVICE EXCISE TAX (IN MILLION PESOS)



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PLEASE PAY YOUR TAXES.

www.bir.gov.ph

REVENUE REGIONS/DISTRICT OFFICES	REGIONAL DIRECTORS*/ REVENUE DISTRICT OFFICERS	SECOND QUARTER						
		2002 Actual Collections	2001 Actual Collections	Compared to Previous Year Increase/(Decrease)		2002 Goal	Collection vs. Goal Excess/(Deficiency)	
				Amount	(%)		Amount	(%)
GRAND TOTAL		P 104,933,224,273.81	103,820,952,238.34	1,112,272,035.47	1.07	123,641,778,000.00	(18[illegible]	
20 NATIONAL OFFICE		P 59,058,290,398.30	62,567,742,141.13	(3,509,351,742.83)	(5.61)	74,635,183,000.00	(15,[illegible]	[illegible]
116 - Large Taxpayers Service	Edwin R. Abella - ACIR	32,696,688,609.57	37,545,408,674.53	(4,848,720,064.96)	(12.38)	43,490,067,920.00	(10,563[illegible]	[illegible]
121 - LTS Excise Taxpayers	Elvira R. Vera - HREA	21,911,848,016.97	19,831,210,483.31	2,080,637,533.66	10.49	26,435,292,480.00	(4,52[illegible]	[illegible]
122 - LTDO-Makati	Flor M. Mercado - ACTING CHIEF	2,599,855,261.59	3,891,618,124.06	(1,291,762,872.47)	(33.19)	3,541,868,560.00	(94[illegible]	[illegible]
123 - LTDO-Cebu	Jonathan Capenas - ASST CHIEF	1,649,998,520.17	1,299,504,860.23	350,493,660.94	26.97	1,397,956,060.00	252,042,460.17	18.03
1 CALASIAO, PANGASINAN	**RUBEN B. BUENAVENTURA**	P 800,448,534.71	670,278,234.19	130,170,300.52	19.42	788,128,000.00	12,320,534.71	1.56
1 - Laoag City	Florante R. Aninag	110,521,971.97	94,012,674.50	16,509,297.47	17.56	110,340,000.00	181,971.97	0.16
2 - Vigan, Ilocos Sur	Imelda A. Bueno	132,716,278.62	118,073,803.56	14,642,475.06	12.40	118,219,000.00	14,497,278.62	12.26
3 - San Fernando, La Union	Yolanda B. Ferrer	149,723,931.81	125,163,932.64	24,559,999.17	19.62	165,507,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
4 - Calasiao, West Pangasinan	Artemio D. Aquino	158,931,300.11	122,960,876.90	35,970,423.21	29.25	149,740,000.00	9,191,300.11	6.14
5 - Alaminos, West Pangasinan	Crescenta A. Millante	102,495,054.25	84,658,415.94	17,836,638.31	20.78	110,340,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
6 - Urdaneta, East Pangasinan	Rodolfo B. Mindanao Jr.	146,059,997.95	125,208,530.65	20,851,467.30	16.65	133,982,000.00	12,077,997.95	9.01
2 CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION	**ESTRELLA V. MARTINEZ**	P 435,707,471.72	485,910,532.97	(50,203,061.25)	(10.33)	574,314,000.00	(138,[illegible]	[illegible]
7 - Bangued, Abra	Elmer A. Padores	18,934,971.80	16,847,782.26	2,087,189.54	12.39	19,860,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
8 - Baguio City	Amado Q. Navarro	263,871,389.38	322,965,321.45	(59,093,932.07)	(18.30)	370,760,000.00	(106,888,610.[illegible]	(28[illegible]
9 - La Trinidad, Benguet	Arnulfo B. Romero	96,992,079.35	98,124,441.51	(1,132,362.16)	(1.15)	113,528,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
10 - Bontoc, Mt. Province	Conrado P. Tangkia	14,087,265.16	11,233,262.40	2,854,002.76	25.41	17,094,000.00	(3,006,734.[illegible]	[illegible]
11 - Tabuk, Kalinga-Apayao	Daisy W. Quirino - OIC	28,664,383.23	25,387,073.03	3,277,290.20	12.91	36,972,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
12 - Lagawe, Ifugao	Joaquin L. Libardo Jr. - ARDO	13,157,402.80	11,352,652.32	1,804,750.48	15.90	16,100,000.00		
3 TUGUEGARAO, CAGAYAN	**JAIME Q. CONCEPCION**	P 361,946,260.34	315,916,238.61	46,030,021.73	14.57	360,731,000.00	1,215,260.34	0.34
13 - Tuguegarao, Cagayan	Quirino A. Ramos Jr.	159,013,853.29	112,170,790.16	46,843,063.13	41.76	127,868,000.00	31,145,853.29	24.36
14 - Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya	Nerissa C. Agnam - ACTG. RDO	47,303,763.69	44,769,704.72	2,534,058.97	5.66	53,373,000.00	[illegible]	
15 - Ilagan, Isabela	Honorato R. Organo	143,330,162.22	136,533,719.71	6,796,442.51	4.98	164,407,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
16 - Cabarroguis, Quirino	Cleofe L. Flores	12,298,481.24	22,442,024.02	[illegible]	[illegible]	25,063,000.00		
4 SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA	**ANTONIO F. MONTEMAYOR**	P 1,510,284,514.71	1,273,168,862.62	237,115,652.09	18.62	1,497,082,000.00	13,202,514.71	0.88
17 - Tarlac, Tarlac	Rosalio U. Sarthou	233,884,957.82	188,842,063.64	45,042,894.18	23.85	220,132,000.00	13,752,957.82	6.25
18 - Olongapo City	Eduardo A. Baluyut	86,083,651.14	87,373,354.88	(1,289,703.74)	(1.48)	101,743,000.00	[illegible]	
19 - Subic Bay Free Port Zone	Maridur V. Rosario	204,642,939.15	227,685,262.39	(23,042,323.24)	(10.12)	204,613,000.00	29,939.15	0.01
20 - Balanga, Bataan	Beltran A. Dy	180,240,258.08	128,936,185.87	51,304,072.21	39.79	175,204,000.00	5,036,258.08	2.87
21 - San Fernando, Pampanga	Liberato L. Navarro	611,669,100.02	472,512,540.26	139,156,559.76	29.45	584,668,000.00	27,001,100.02	4.62
22 - Baler, Aurora	Juanito P. Alcantara - OIC	20,096,231.19	23,496,691.10	(3,400,459.91)	(14.47)	20,961,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
23 - Cabanatuan City	Flordeliza P. Villegas	173,668,377.31	144,323,764.48	29,344,612.83	20.33	189,761,000.00	[illegible]	
5 VALENZUELA, METRO MANILA	**NESTOR S. VALEROSO**	P 1,654,778,820.73	1,332,624,285.81	322,154,534.92	24.17	1,555,832,000.00	98,946,820.73	6.36
24 - Valenzuela	Orsino M. Morano	333,539,238.62	273,801,643.33	59,737,595.29	21.82	323,707,000.00	9,832,238.62	3.04
25 - Malolos, Bulacan	Erlinda SD. Pantanilla	638,206,134.75	473,292,841.55	164,913,293.20	34.84	552,079,000.00	86,127,134.75	15.60
26 - Malabon - Navotas	Marina C. de Guzman	304,124,805.84	255,736,597.68	48,388,208.16	18.92	291,400,000.00	12,724,805.84	4.37
27 - Caloocan City	Eduardo T. Bejador	378,908,641.52	329,793,203.25	49,115,438.27	14.89	388,648,000.00	[illegible]	
6 MANILA	**RUPERTO P. SOMERA**	P 12,059,427,520.01	10,093,645,360.16	1,965,782,159.85	19.48	11,090,322,000.00	969,105,520.01	8.74
29 - San Nicolas - Tondo	Orlando V. Chio	267,386,666.27	248,323,024.13	19,063,642.14	7.68	365,006,000.00	[illegible]	
30 - Binondo	Lorna S. Tobias	295,447,719.60	339,076,427.81	(43,628,708.21)	(12.87)	237,034,000.00	58,413,719.60	24.64
31 - Sta. Cruz	Pepito S. Baynosa	192,446,750.46	197,741,453.14	(5,294,702.68)	(2.68)	250,736,000.00	(58,[illegible]	
32 - Quiapo - Sampaloc - San Miguel	Benito B. Wong	419,445,256.74	366,332,782.25	53,112,474.49	14.50	642,079,000.00	(222,633,743.26)	
33 - Intramuros-Ermita-Malate	Zenaida G. Garcia	10,335,857,243.17	8,474,279,373.05	1,861,377,870.12	21.97	8,934,835,000.00	1,401,022,243.17	15.68
34 - Paco - Pandacan - Sta. Ana	David J. Alarcon	404,386,170.17	345,655,828.43	58,730,341.74	16.99	482,828,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
35 - Romblon	Lolita D. Blando - ACTG. ARDO	20,999,583.66	17,236,851.09	3,762,732.57	21.83	24,285,000.00	(3,285,4[illegible]	[illegible]
36 - Puerto Princesa	Solon B. Alcantara	93,498,941.69	76,639,499.51	16,859,442.18	22.00	115,403,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
37 - San Jose, Occidental Mindoro	Leonora R. Ruizol	30,159,188.35	28,360,120.75	1,799,067.60	6.34	38,318,000.00	[illegible]	
7 QUEZON CITY	**DANILO A. DUNCANO**	P 9,002,299,197.04	8,187,120,451.08	815,178,746.26	9.96	9,958,425,000.00	[illegible]	
28 - Novaliches	Ernesto T. Kho	278,440,372.12	236,791,471.07	42,648,901.05	18.01	274,960,000.00	4,480,372.12	1.63
38 - North Quezon City	Jonas DP. Amora	980,254,788.11	809,434,860.66	170,819,927.45	21.10	1,036,990,000.00	[illegible]	
39 - South Quezon City	Ramon Tadeo M. Cangco	1,725,209,704.96	1,636,887,966.83	88,321,738.13	5.27	2,144,214,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
40 - Cubao	Clavelina S. Nacar	1,218,410,403.19	955,674,815.29	262,735,587.90	27.49	1,172,183,000.00	46,227,403.19	3.94
41 - Mandaluyong	Isidro T. Casals Jr.	1,095,935,562.54	1,040,160,155.12	55,775,407.42	5.36	1,154,655,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
42 - San Juan	Cesario C. Laynes	379,720,987.88	350,828,131.64	28,892,856.22	8.24	381,929,000.00	(2,208,0[illegible]	[illegible]
43 - Pasig	Romeo E. Naranjo	2,625,332,552.65	2,430,933,797.78	194,398,754.87	8.00	2,974,999,000.00	(349,666,4[illegible]	[illegible]
45 - Marikina	Frederick P. Capitan	307,069,739.43	315,528,778.25	(8,459,038.82)	(2.68)	391,806,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
46 - Cainta - Taytay	Josue E. Imperio	390,925,087.08	408,880,475.04	[illegible]	[illegible]	424,689,000.00	[illegible]	
8 MAKATI	**ANTONIO I. ORTEGA**	P 9,851,455,781.21	9,577,386,810.56	274,068,970.65	2.86	11,230,818,000.00	(1,37[illegible]	[illegible]
44 - Taguig - Pateros	Rosemarie R. Ragasa	511,532,319.04	462,589,175.87	48,943,143.17	10.58	858,555,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
47 - East Makati	Simplicio A. Madulara	2,129,180,122.97	2,049,262,097.98	79,918,024.99	3.90	2,245,359,000.00	(116,178,877.03)	[illegible]
48 - West Makati	Ner Alfredo B. Piana	732,703,392.83	783,468,516.55	(50,765,123.72)	(6.48)	1,031,132,000.00	(298,428,6[illegible]	[illegible]
49 - North Makati	Roberto A. Baquiran	1,126,847,177.01	1,170,122,671.63	(43,275,494.62)	(3.70)	1,319,312,000.00	(192,464,822.99)	[illegible]
50 - South Makati	Perfecto L. Aranas	2,077,169,757.67	2,240,337,099.03	(163,167,341.36)	(7.28)	2,553,454,000.00	(476,284,242.33)	[illegible]
51 - Pasay City	Elenita B. Quimosing	1,005,048,188.35	826,236,516.58	178,811,671.77	21.64	931,102,000.00	73,946,188.35	7.94
52 - Paranaque	Carmelita R. Bacod	911,604,881.59	762,616,806.24	169,188,075.35	21.15	1,047,352,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
53 - Las Pinas - Muntinlupa	Marcelino M. Quito	1,357,169,941.75	1,292,753,926.78	64,416,014.97	4.98	1,544,552,000.00	[illegible]	
9 SAN PABLO CITY	**LUCIEN E. SAYUNO**	P 4,011,864,931.87	3,585,223,397.31	426,641,534.56	11.90	4,342,712,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
54 - Trece Martirez City	Enrique F. Suministrado	1,119,474,217.61	985,972,104.50	133,502,113.11	13.54	1,241,448,000.00	[illegible]	
55 - San Pablo City	Edmundo A. Vasquez	254,114,785.28	172,222,946.08	81,891,839.20	47.55	138,065,000.00	116,049,785.28	84.05
56 - Calamba, Laguna	Edna F. Cuartero	657,319,225.83	436,410,417.21	220,908,808.62	50.62	591,009,000.00	66,310,225.83	11.22
57 - San Pedro, Laguna	Wilfredo Z. Namola	860,369,171.80	812,683,462.39	47,685,709.41	5.87	1,057,350,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
58 - Batangas City	Juan P. Leron	476,611,249.33	535,778,142.33	(59,160,893.00)	(11.04)	570,849,000.00	(94,237,750.67)	[illegible]
59 - Lipa City	Romeo A. Bacong	320,294,951.19	269,627,063.47	50,667,887.72	18.79	327,343,000.00	(7,048,048.81)	[illegible]
60 - Lucena City	Guillermo R. Guce	237,629,825.14	290,615,912.69	(53,086,087.55)	(18.27)	307,904,000.00	(70,274,174.86)	[illegible]
61 - Gumaca, Quezon	Maria M. Alfonso - OIC	26,173,090.12	23,428,726.13	2,744,363.99	11.71	31,887,000.00	(5,713,909.88)	[illegible]
62 - Boac, Marinduque	Erlinda T. Cosico - OIC	11,387,917.66	11,023,002.46	364,915.20	3.31	15,644,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
63 - Calapan, Oriental Mindoro	Muriel P. Flores	48,590,497.71	47,461,720.05	1,128,777.66	2.38	61,213,000.00		
10 LEGAZPI CITY	**LEONARDO Q. SACAMOS**	P 519,882,611.00	412,341,025.93	107,541,585.07	26.08	469,567,000.00	50,315,611.00	10.72
64 - Daet, Camarines Norte	Ma. Luisa I. Belen	51,962,314.40	47,699,326.74	4,262,987.66	8.94	53,829,000.00		
65 - Naga City, Camarines Sur	Rafaelito S. Ante	120,410,081.00	117,769,513.58	2,640,567.42	2.24	133,573,000.00	[illegible]	
66 - Iriga City	Renato N. Molina	44,614,490.03	32,217,434.58	12,397,055.45	38.48	36,599,000.00	8,015,490.03	21.90
67 - Legazpi City	Socorro R. Lafuente	229,585,615.75	136,973,064.59	92,612,551.16	67.61	154,583,000.00	75,002,615.75	48.52
68 - Sorsogon, Sorsogon	Eduardo F. Llaneta	31,549,301.87	37,341,348.79	(5,792,046.92)	(15.51)	43,231,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
69 - Virac, Catanduanes	Ramon T. King Jr.	18,637,567.11	17,318,275.48	1,319,291.63	7.62	18,692,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
70 - Masbate, Masbate	Danny R. Coraiga	23,123,240.64	23,022,062.17	101,178.67	0.44	28,060,000.00		
11 ILOILO CITY	**RENE Q. AGUAS**	P 692,799,927.45	603,541,247.49	89,258,679.96	14.79	669,673,000.00	23,126,927.45	3.45
71 - Kalibo, Aklan	Eralen B. De Aro	42,480,008.51	43,987,154.17	(1,507,145.66)	(3.43)	45,471,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
72 - Roxas City	Rodita B. Galanto	55,780,373.46	55,043,362.67	737,010.79	1.34	49,356,000.00	6,424,373.46	13.02
73 - San Jose, Antique	Josefa T. Doran - ACTG. ARDO	25,776,144.11	26,362,789.89	(586,645.78)	(2.23)	28,619,000.00		
74 - Iloilo City	Raul Vicente L. Recto	510,531,035.54	428,140,666.26	82,390,369.28	19.24	502,054,000.00	8,477,035.54	1.69
75 - Zarraga, Iloilo	Rey Asterio L. Tambis	58,232,365.83	50,007,274.50	8,225,091.33	16.45	46,273,000.00	11,959,365.83	25.85
12 BACOLOD CITY	**SONIA L. FLORES**	P 537,921,280.13	565,425,471.98	(27,504,191.85)	(4.86)	631,454,000.00	[illegible]	
76 - Victorias, Negros Occidental	Julieta D. Makilan (ARDO)	93,747,021.79	121,715,957.24	(27,968,935.45)	(22.98)	117,915,000.00	(24,167,978.21)	
77 - Bacolod City	Godofredo M. San Jose Jr.	252,495,914.80	265,396,954.68	(12,901,039.88)	(4.86)	305,563,000.00	[illegible]	
78 - Binalbagan, Negros Occidental	Sergio E. Bueya	55,732,982.04	60,847,842.39	(5,114,860.35)	(8.41)	73,746,000.00		
79 - Dumaguete City	Cristina G. Rona ARDO	135,945,361.50	117,464,717.67	18,480,643.83	15.73	133,840,000.00	2,105,361.50	1.57
13 CEBU CITY	**JAIME B. SANTIAGO**	P 1,241,737,749.64	1,034,590,119.29	207,147,630.35	20.02	1,450,616,000.00	[illegible]	
80 - Mandaue City	Ramer D. Narvaez	389,723,020.49	297,065,712.17	92,657,308.32	31.19	395,726,000.00	[illegible]	
81 - Cebu City	Estrella S. Lopez	480,193,434.55	377,767,219.49	102,426,215.06	27.11	569,345,000.00	(89,151,[illegible]	
82 - Cebu City South	Florante C. Da Castro	147,353,437.87	152,550,662.63	(5,197,224.96)	(3.41)	209,037,000.00	(61,683,[illegible]	
83 - Talisay, Cebu	Wilma T Elvera	129,322,673.26	124,488,422.21	4,834,251.04	3.88	159,611,000.00	(30,288,326.[illegible]	
84 - Tagbilaran City	Rogelio T. Baloga (ARDO) - OIC	95,105,183.68	82,678,102.79	12,427,080.89	15.03	116,897,000.00		
14 TACLOBAN CITY	**ALFREDO V. MISAJON**	P 474,810,021.64	538,036,475.82	(63,226,454.18)	(11.75)	560,825,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
85 - Catarman, Northern Samar	Eduardo B. Gayas - OIC	32,352,278.96	25,305,381.76	7,046,897.20	27.85	33,246,000.00		
86 - Borongan, Eastern Samar	Rolando B. Espina	35,959,762.78	27,138,181.13	8,821,581.65	32.51	28,448,000.00	7,511,762.78	26.41
87 - Catbalogan, Western Samar	Christina M. Cardona	44,285,008.98	35,051,075.55	9,233,933.43	26.34	46,684,000.00		
88 - Tacloban City	Imelda D. Cebuano	205,579,549.93	146,798,304.14	58,781,245.79	40.04	266,762,000.00		
89 - Ormoc City	Evangelina P. Calumpiano	124,514,928.94	277,001,787.98	(152,486,859.04)	(55.05)	150,183,000.00		
90 - Maasin, Southern Leyte	Ma. Teresa Noemi A. Pizon (ARDO)	32,118,492.05	26,743,745.26	5,374,746.79	20.10	35,502,000.00		
15 ZAMBOANGA CITY	**MAMA B. MARZOC**	P 332,062,702.72	333,004,811.83	(942,109.11)	(0.28)	383,124,000.00	[illegible]	
91 - Dipolog City	Cesar S. Ampatu	51,233,579.24	46,613,189.53	4,620,389.71	9.91	52,891,000.00		
92 - Pagadian City	Nasser A. Tanggor	61,677,434.76	60,475,613.29	1,201,821.46	2.38	57,779,000.00		
93 - Zamboanga City	Sandalo K. Mamaluddin	207,312,761.32	214,922,078.34	(7,609,316.02)	(3.54)	248,887,000.00		
94 - Isabela, Basilan	Abdulhalik C. Abdus	9,743,351.57	9,684,457.69	58,893.88	0.61	10,846,000.00	(1,102,6[illegible]	
95 - Jolo, Sulu	Datu Baktial J. Ahmad	7,604,690.96	7,083,300.81	521,690.15	7.36	8,042,000.00	(437,31[illegible]	
96 - Bongao, Tawi-Tawi	Arsenio P. Aguilera	4,490,504.68	4,226,184.17	264,410.71	6.26	4,699,000.00		
16 CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY	**JOSE N. TAN**	P 760,502,957.69	751,986,315.41	8,516,642.28	1.13	899,465,000.00	[illegible]	
97 - Gingoog City	Concepcion E. Go	29,126,590.71	23,418,400.56	5,707,190.15	24.37	28,819,000.00	306,590.71	1.06
98 - Cagayan de Oro City	Emir U. Abutazil	422,564,854.44	429,099,404.20	(6,534,549.76)	(1.52)	507,012,000.00	[illegible]	
99 - Malaybalay, Bukidnon	Cuzon P. Azis	120,947,050.01	100,683,756.78	20,264,199.23	20.13	124,452,000.00	(3,504,9[illegible]	
100 - Ozamis City	Estor S. Palala	50,323,632.02	56,509,797.60	(6,186,264.68)	(9.34)	70,928,000.00	(20,60[illegible]	
101 - Iligan City	Wilson C. Dy	115,413,698.70	123,526,602.95	(8,112,904.25)	(6.57)	145,135,000.00	(29,7[illegible]	
102 - Marawi City	Samer R. Muti	22,127,322.01	19,748,451.32	2,378,871.59	12.05	23,118,000.00		
17 BUTUAN CITY	**MARCELINDA O. YAP**	P 251,873,593.09	249,018,190.30	2,855,402.79	1.67	288,558,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
103 - Butuan City	Edilberto C. Radaza	100,972,743.84	95,509,890.23	5,462,853.61	5.72	112,680,000.00	[illegible]	
104 - Bayugan, Agusan del Sur	Nida Mantala Comandante ARDO	47,637,248.29	37,794,608.55	9,842,639.74	26.04	52,264,000.00	(4,6[illegible]	
105 - Surigao City	Nonilo L. Vasquez	53,764,685.18	58,529,820.91	(4,764,914.72)	(8.14)	63,610,000.00	(9,845,[illegible]	
106 - Tandag, Surigao del Sur	Jose Eric C. Furia	49,298,715.77	57,183,861.61	[illegible]	[illegible]	60,004,000.00		
18 COTABATO CITY	**TAMANATAO S. AMEROL**	P 440,396,073.58	399,370,949.15	41,026,124.41	10.27	452,053,000.00	[illegible]	
107 - Cotabato City	Mamapok G. Diro	140,046,357.71	110,384,157.13	29,662,200.58	26.85	[illegible]	21,908,655.71	
108 - Kidapawan, Northern Cotabato	Muslimen L. Maca-Agir	72,506,478.12	67,687,851.80	4,818,626.32	6.80	74,662,749.00	[illegible]	
109 - Tacurong, Sultan Kudarat	Bagio S. Saranaaman	28,554,782.54	26,336,733.28	2,218,049.26	8.42	28,580,778.00	[illegible]	
110 - General Santos City	Eduardo T. Obero	111,526,923.96	113,746,690.99	(2,219,767.03)	(1.95)	116,760,118.00	(5,233,19[illegible]	
111 - Koronadal, South Cotabato	Salica Tagoranao (ARDO) - OIC	78,761,531.23	72,015,525.05	6,746,006.18	9.37	114,911,553.00		
19 DAVAO CITY	**TEODORICA R. ARCEGA**	P 934,833,925.55	844,619,316.10	90,214,609.45	10.68	994,096,000.00	[illegible]	
112 - Tagum, Davao del Norte	Nicandro R. Suaybaguio - ACTG	164,656,176.30	135,016,772.31	29,639,403.99	21.95	173,342,000.00	(8,6[illegible]	
113 - Davao City	Evelyn A. Sardido	688,067,283.68	631,822,504.61	56,244,779.07	8.90	732,276,000.00	(44,20[illegible]	[illegible]
114 - Mati, Davao Oriental	Joaquina L. Pondoc - OIC	31,067,456.07	28,931,805.00	2,135,621.07	7.38	34,094,000.00	(3,026,5[illegible]	[illegible]
115 - Digos, Davao del Sur	Leo O. Gonzales	51,040,980.50	48,846,174.18	2,194,806.32	4.49	55,105,000.00	[illegible]	

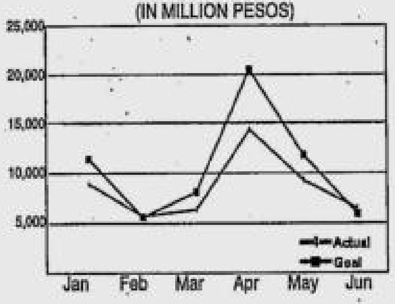
Notes : Totals may not add up due to rounding
Figures in red indicate either a collection shortfall compared to the same period last year or a shortfall compared to goal
* Names of Regional Directors are written in bold letters

BIR COLLECTION PERFORMANCE MONITOR

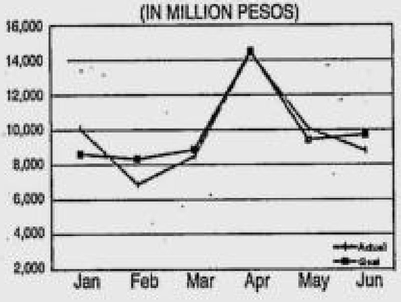
2002 Second Quarter Collection based on Consolidated Monthly Statistics of Revenue Collection under BIR Form No. 12.09

The Bureau of Internal Revenue, in its continuing effort to promote transparency and accountability in the administration and collection of taxes, hereby presents the second quarter Collection Performance Monitor (CPM) for taxable year 2002. The CPM, which is published quarterly, is part of a broader program of the BIR to institutionalize a performance-based culture in tax administration. Other public information documents are also being published on a regular basis.

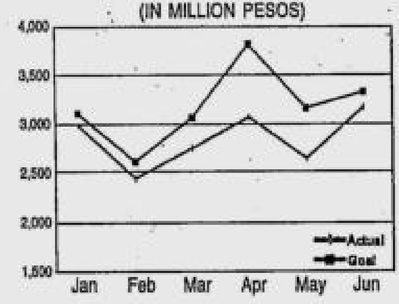
LARGE TAXPAYERS SERVICE
INCOME TAX
(IN MILLION PESOS)



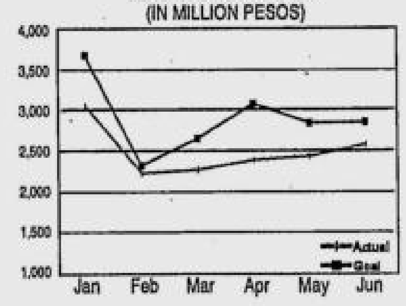
REVENUE REGIONS
INCOME TAX
(IN MILLION PESOS)



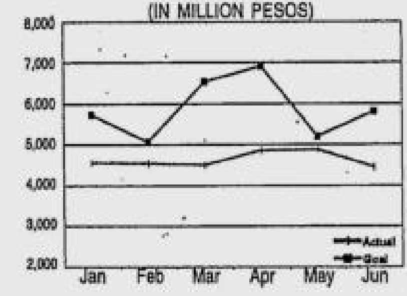
LARGE TAXPAYERS SERVICE VAT
(IN MILLION PESOS)



REVENUE REGIONS VAT
(IN MILLION PESOS)



LARGE TAXPAYERS SERVICE
EXCISE TAX
(IN MILLION PESOS)



REVENUE REGIONS/DISTRICT OFFICES	REGIONAL DIRECTORS/ REVENUE DISTRICT OFFICERS		SECOND QUARTER						
			2002 Actual Collections	2001 Actual Collections	Compared to Previous Year Increase/(Decrease)		2002 Goal	Collection vs. Goal Excess/(Deficiency)	
					Amount	(%)		Amount	(%)
GRAND TOTAL		P	104,933,224,273.81	103,820,952,238.34	1,112,272,035.47	1.07	123,841,778,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
20 NATIONAL OFFICE		P	69,058,390,390.30	72,667,742,141.13	(3,609,351,742.93)	(5.01)	74,835,183,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
110 - Large Taxpayers Service	Edwin R. Abella - ACIR		32,896,888,609.57	37,545,408,674.63	(4,648,720,064.96)	(12.38)	43,460,067,920.00	(10,563,379,310.43)	(24.31)
121 - LTS Excise Taxpayers	Elvira R. Vera - HREA		21,911,848,016.97	19,831,210,483.31	2,080,637,533.66	10.49	26,435,292,460.00	(4,523,444,443.03)	(17.11)
122 - LTDO-Makati	Flor M. Mercado - ACTING CHIEF		2,599,855,251.59	3,891,618,124.06	(1,291,762,872.47)	(33.19)	3,541,866,560.00	(942,011,308.41)	[illegible]
123 - LTDO-Cebu	Jonathan Capanas - ASST CHIEF		1,649,998,520.17	1,299,504,859.23	350,493,660.94	26.97	1,397,956,060.00	252,042,460.17	18.03
1 CALASIAO, PANGASINAN	**RUBEN B. BUENAVENTURA**	P	800,448,534.71	670,278,234.19	130,170,300.52	19.42	788,128,000.00	12,320,534.71	1.56
1 - Laoag City	Florante R. Aninag		110,521,971.97	94,012,674.50	16,509,297.47	17.56	110,340,000.00	181,971.97	0.16
2 - Vigan, Ilocos Sur	Imelda A. Bueno		132,716,278.62	118,073,803.56	14,642,475.06	12.40	118,219,000.00	14,497,278.62	12.26
3 - San Fernando, La Union	Yolanda B. Ferrer		149,723,931.81	125,163,932.64	24,559,999.17	19.62	165,507,000.00	(15,783,068.19)	(9.54)
4 - Calasiao, West Pangasinan	Artemio D. Aquino		158,931,300.11	122,960,876.90	35,970,423.21	29.25	149,740,000.00	9,191,300.11	6.14
5 - Alaminos, West Pangasinan	Crescente A. Millante		102,495,054.25	84,858,416.94	17,636,638.31	20.78	110,340,000.00	(7,844,945.75)	(7.11)
6 - Urdaneta, East Pangasinan	Rodolfo B. Mindanao Jr.		146,059,997.95	125,208,530.65	20,851,467.30	16.65	133,982,000.00	12,077,997.95	9.01
2 CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION	**ESTRELLA V. MARTINEZ**	P	435,707,471.72	485,910,532.97	(50,203,061.25)	(10.33)	574,314,000.00	(138,606,528.28)	(24.13)
7 - Bangued, Abra	Elmer A. Paderes		18,934,971.80	16,847,782.26	2,087,189.54	12.39	19,860,000.00	(925,028.20)	(4.66)
8 - Baguio City	Amado Q. Navarro		263,871,389.38	322,965,321.45	(59,093,932.07)	(18.30)	370,760,000.00	(106,888,610.62)	(28.83)
9 - La Trinidad, Benguet	Arnulfo B. Romero		96,992,079.35	98,124,441.51	(1,132,362.16)	(1.15)	113,628,000.00	(16,635,920.65)	(14.67)
10 - Bontoc, Mt. Province	Conrado P. Tangkia		14,087,265.16	11,233,262.40	2,854,002.76	25.41	17,094,000.00	(3,006,734.84)	(17.59)
11 - Tabuk, Kalinga-Apayao	Daisy W. Quirino - OIC		28,664,363.23	25,387,073.03	3,277,290.20	12.91	36,972,000.00	(8,307,636.77)	(22.47)
12 - Lagawe, Ifugao	Joaquin L. Libardo Jr. - ARDO		13,157,402.80	11,352,652.32	1,804,750.48	15.90	18,100,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
3 TUGUEGARAO,CAGAYAN	**JAIME Q. CONCEPCION**	P	361,946,260.34	315,916,238.61	46,030,021.73	14.57	360,731,000.00	1,215,260.34	0.34
13 - Tuguegarao, Cagayan	Quirino A. Ramos Jr.		159,013,653.29	112,170,790.16	46,843,063.13	41.76	127,868,000.00	31,145,653.29	24.36
14 - Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya	Nerissa C. Agraam - ACTG. RDO		47,303,763.59	44,769,704.72	2,534,058.87	5.66	53,373,000.00	(6,069,236.41)	[illegible]
15 - Ilagan, Isabela	Honorato R. Organo		143,330,162.22	136,533,719.71	6,796,442.51	4.98	154,407,000.00	(11,076,837.78)	[illegible]
16 - Cabarroguis, Quirino	Cleofe L. Flores		12,298,481.24	22,442,024.02	(10,143,542.78)	(45.20)	25,083,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
4 SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA	**ANTONIO F. MONTEMAYOR**	P	1,510,284,514.71	1,273,168,862.62	237,115,652.09	18.62	1,497,082,000.00	13,202,514.71	0.88
17 - Tarlac, Tarlac	Rosalie U. Sarthou		233,884,957.82	188,842,063.64	45,042,894.18	23.85	220,132,000.00	13,752,957.82	6.25
18 - Olongapo City	Eduardo A. Baluyut		86,083,651.14	87,373,354.88	(1,289,703.74)	(1.48)	101,743,000.00	(15,659,348.86)	(15.39)
19 - Subic Bay Free Port Zone	Markdur V. Rosario		204,642,939.15	227,685,262.39	(23,042,323.24)	(10.12)	204,613,000.00	29,939.15	0.01
20 - Balanga, Bataan	Beltran A. Dy		180,240,258.08	128,936,185.87	51,304,072.21	39.79	175,204,000.00	5,036,258.08	2.87
21 - San Fernando, Pampanga	Liberato L. Navarro		611,669,100.02	472,512,540.26	139,156,559.76	29.45	584,668,000.00	27,001,100.02	4.62
22 - Baler, Aurora	Juanito P. Alcantara - OIC		20,095,231.19	23,495,691.10	(3,400,459.91)	(14.47)	20,961,000.00	(865,768.81)	(4.13)
23 - Cabanatuan City	Flordeliza P. Villegas		173,668,377.31	144,323,764.48	29,344,612.83	20.33	169,761,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
5 VALENZUELA, METRO MANILA	**NESTOR S. VALEROSO**	P	1,654,778,820.73	1,332,624,285.81	322,154,534.92	24.17	1,555,832,000.00	98,946,820.73	6.36
24 - Valenzuela	Orsino M. Moreno		333,539,238.62	273,801,643.33	59,737,595.29	21.82	323,707,000.00	9,832,238.62	3.04
25 - Malolos, Bulacan	Erlinda SD. Pantanilla		638,206,134.75	473,292,841.55	164,913,293.20	34.84	552,079,000.00	86,127,134.75	15.60
26 - Malabon - Navotas	Marina C. de Guzman		304,124,805.84	255,736,597.68	48,388,208.16	18.92	291,400,000.00	12,724,805.84	4.37
27 - Caloocan City	Eduardo T. Bajador		378,908,641.52	329,793,203.25	49,115,438.27	14.89	388,846,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
6 MANILA	**RUPERTO P. SOMERA**	P	12,059,427,520.01	10,093,645,360.18	1,965,782,159.83	19.48	11,090,322,000.00	969,105,520.01	8.74
29 - San Nicolas - Tondo	Orlando V. Chio		267,386,666.27	248,323,024.13	19,063,642.14	7.68	365,006,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
30 - Binondo	Lorna S. Tobias		295,447,719.50	339,076,427.81	(43,628,708.31)	(12.87)	237,034,000.00	58,413,719.50	24.64
31 - Sta. Cruz	Pepito S. Baynosa		192,446,750.45	197,741,453.14	(5,294,702.69)	(2.68)	250,735,000.00	(58,288,249.55)	[illegible]
32 - Quiapo - Sampaloc - San Miguel	Benito B. Wong		419,445,256.74	366,332,782.25	53,112,474.49	14.50	642,079,000.00	(222,633,743.26)	(34.67)
33 - Intramuros-Ermita-Malate	Zenaida G. Garcia		10,335,657,243.17	8,474,279,373.05	1,861,377,870.12	21.97	8,934,635,000.00	1,401,022,243.17	15.68
34 - Paco - Pandacan - Sta. Ana	David J. Alarcon		404,386,170.17	345,655,828.43	58,730,341.74	16.99	482,828,000.00	(78,442,829.83)	(16.25)
35 - Romblon	Lotie D. Blando - ACTG. ARDO		20,999,583.66	17,236,851.09	3,762,732.57	21.83	24,285,000.00	(3,285,416.34)	(13.53)
36 - Puerto Princesa	Solon B. Alcantara		93,498,941.69	76,639,499.51	16,859,442.18	22.00	115,403,000.00	(21,904,058.31)	(18.98)
37 - San Jose, Occidental Mindoro	Leonora R. Ruizol		30,159,188.35	28,360,120.75	1,799,067.60	6.34	38,316,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
7 QUEZON CITY	**DANILO A. DUNCANO**	P	9,002,299,197.94	8,187,120,451.68	815,178,746.26	9.96	9,958,425,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
28 - Novaliches	Ernesto T. Kho		279,440,372.12	236,791,471.07	42,648,901.05	18.01	274,960,000.00	4,480,372.12	1.63
38 - North Quezon City	Jonas DP. Amora		980,254,788.11	809,434,860.66	170,819,927.45	21.10	1,036,990,000.00	(56,735,211.89)	(5.47)
39 - South Quezon City	Ramon Tadeo M. Cangco		1,725,209,704.96	1,638,887,966.83	86,321,738.13	5.27	2,144,214,000.00	(419,004,295.04)	(19.54)
40 - Cubao	Clevelina S. Nacar		1,218,410,403.19	955,674,815.29	262,735,587.90	27.49	1,172,183,000.00	46,227,403.19	3.94
41 - Mandaluyong	Isidro T. Casals Jr.		1,095,935,562.54	1,040,160,155.12	55,775,407.42	5.36	1,154,655,000.00	(58,719,437.46)	(5.09)
42 - San Juan	Cesario C. Leynes		379,720,987.88	350,828,131.64	28,892,856.22	8.24	381,929,000.00	(2,208,012.14)	(0.58)
43 - Pasig	Romeo E. Naranjo		2,625,332,552.65	2,430,933,797.78	194,398,754.87	8.00	2,974,999,000.00	(349,666,447.35)	(11.75)
45 - Marikina	Frederick P. Capitan		307,069,739.43	315,528,778.25	(8,459,038.82)	(2.68)	391,806,000.00	(84,736,260.57)	(21.63)
46 - Cainta - Taytay	Josue E. Imperio		390,926,087.08	408,880,475.04	(17,956,387.96)	(4.39)	424,689,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
8 MAKATI	**ANTONIO I. ORTEGA**	P	9,851,455,781.21	9,577,386,810.56	274,068,970.65	2.86	11,230,818,000.00	(1,379,362,218.79)	[illegible]
44 - Taguig - Pateros	Rosemarie R. Ragasa		511,532,319.04	462,589,175.87	48,943,143.17	10.58	558,555,000.00	(47,022,680.96)	(8.42)
47 - East Makati	Simplicio A. Madulara		2,129,180,122.97	2,049,262,097.98	79,918,024.99	3.90	2,245,359,000.00	(116,178,877.03)	(5.17)
48 - West Makati	Ner Alfredo B. Plana		732,703,392.83	783,468,516.55	(50,765,123.72)	(6.48)	1,031,132,000.00	(298,428,607.17)	(28.94)
49 - North Makati	Roberto A. Baquiran		1,126,847,177.01	1,170,122,671.63	(43,275,494.62)	(3.70)	1,319,312,000.00	(192,464,822.99)	(14.59)
50 - South Makati	Perfecto L. Aranas		2,077,169,757.67	2,240,337,099.03	(163,167,341.36)	(7.28)	2,553,454,000.00	(476,284,242.33)	(18.65)
51 - Pasay City	Elenita B. Quimosing		1,005,048,188.35	826,236,516.58	178,811,671.77	21.64	931,102,000.00	73,946,188.35	7.94
52 - Paranaque	Carmelita R. Bacod		911,804,881.59	752,616,806.24	159,188,075.35	21.15	1,047,352,000.00	(135,547,118.41)	(12.94)
53 - Las Pinas - Muntinlupa	Marcelino M. Quilo		1,357,169,941.75	1,292,753,926.78	64,416,014.97	4.98	1,544,552,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
9 SAN PABLO CITY	**LUCIEN E. SAYUNO**	P	4,011,864,931.67	3,585,223,397.31	426,641,534.36	11.90	4,342,712,000.00	(330,847,068.33)	(7.62)
54 - Trece Martirez City	Enrique F. Suministrado		1,119,474,217.61	985,972,104.50	133,502,113.11	13.54	1,241,448,000.00	(121,973,782.39)	(9.83)
55 - San Pablo City	Edmundo A. Vasquez		254,114,785.28	172,222,846.08	81,891,939.20	47.55	138,065,000.00	116,049,785.28	84.05
56 - Calamba, Laguna	Erna F. Cuartero		657,319,226.83	436,410,417.21	220,908,809.62	50.62	591,009,000.00	66,310,226.83	11.22
57 - San Pedro, Laguna	Wilfredo Z. Namola		860,369,171.80	812,683,462.39	47,685,709.41	5.87	1,057,350,000.00	(196,980,828.20)	(18.63)
58 - Batangas City	Juan P. Leron		476,611,249.33	535,778,142.33	(59,166,893.00)	(11.04)	570,849,000.00	(94,237,750.67)	(16.51)
59 - Lipa City	Romeo A. Bacong		320,294,951.19	269,627,063.47	50,667,887.72	18.79	327,343,000.00	(7,048,048.81)	[illegible]
60 - Lucena City	Guillermo R. Guce		237,529,825.14	290,615,912.69	(53,086,087.55)	(18.27)	307,904,000.00	(70,374,174.86)	(22.86)
61 - Gumaca, Quezon	Maria M. Alfonso - OIC		26,173,090.12	23,428,726.13	2,744,363.99	11.71	31,887,000.00	(5,713,909.88)	(17.92)
62 - Boac, Marinduque	Erlinda T. Cosico - OIC		11,387,917.66	11,023,002.46	364,915.20	3.31	15,644,000.00	(4,256,082.34)	(27.21)
63 - Calapan, Oriental Mindoro	Muriel P. Flores		48,590,497.71	47,461,720.05	1,128,777.66	2.38	61,213,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
10 LEGAZPI CITY	**LEONARDO Q. SACAMOS**	P	519,882,611.00	412,341,025.93	107,541,585.07	26.08	469,567,000.00	50,315,611.00	10.72
64 - Daet, Camarines Norte	Ma. Luisa I. Bolen		51,962,314.40	47,699,326.74	4,262,987.66	8.94	53,829,000.00	(1,866,685.60)	(3.47)
65 - Naga City, Camarines Sur	Rafaelito S. Ante		120,410,081.00	117,769,513.58	2,640,567.42	2.24	133,573,000.00	(13,162,919.00)	(9.85)
66 - Iriga City	Renato N. Molina		44,614,490.03	32,217,434.58	12,397,055.45	38.48	36,599,000.00	8,015,490.03	21.90
67 - Legazpi City	Socorro R. Lafuente		229,585,615.75	136,973,064.59	92,612,551.16	67.61	154,583,000.00	75,002,615.75	48.52
68 - Sorsogon, Sorsogon	Eduardo F. Llanete		31,549,301.87	37,341,348.79	(5,792,046.92)	(15.51)	43,231,000.00	(11,681,698.13)	[illegible]
69 - Virac, Catanduanes	Ramon T. King Jr.		18,637,567.11	17,318,275.48	1,319,291.63	7.62	19,692,000.00	(1,054,432.89)	[illegible]
70 - Masbate, Masbate	Danny R. Consiga		23,123,240.84	23,022,062.17	101,178.67	0.44	28,060,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
11 ILOILO CITY	**RENE Q. AGUAS**	P	692,799,927.45	603,541,247.49	89,258,679.96	14.79	669,673,000.00	23,126,927.45	3.45
71 - Kalibo, Aklan	Eralen B. De Aro		42,480,008.51	43,887,154.17	(1,407,145.66)	[illegible]	45,471,000.00	(2,990,991.49)	[illegible]
72 - Roxas City	Rodita B. Galento		55,780,373.46	55,043,362.67	737,010.79	1.34	49,356,000.00	6,424,373.46	13.02
73 - San Jose, Antique	Josefa T. Doran - ACTG. ARDO		25,776,144.11	26,362,789.89	(586,645.78)	(2.23)	26,519,000.00	(742,855.89)	[illegible]
74 - Iloilo City	Raul Vicente L. Recto		510,531,035.54	428,140,666.26	82,390,369.28	19.24	502,054,000.00	8,477,035.54	1.69
75 - Zarraga, Iloilo	Ray Asterio L. Tambis		58,232,365.83	50,007,274.50	8,225,091.33	16.45	46,273,000.00	11,959,365.83	25.85
12 BACOLOD CITY	**SONIA L. FLORES**	P	537,921,280.13	565,425,471.98	(27,504,191.85)	(4.86)	631,454,000.00	(93,532,719.87)	[illegible]
76 - Victorias, Negros Occidental	Julieta D. Maklan (ARDO)		93,747,021.79	121,715,957.24	(27,968,935.45)	(22.98)	117,915,000.00	(24,167,978.21)	[illegible]
77 - Bacolod City	Godofredo M. San Jose Jr.		252,495,914.80	265,396,954.68	(12,901,039.88)	(4.86)	305,953,000.00	(53,457,085.20)	[illegible]
78 - Binalbagan, Negros Occidental	Sergio E. Bueya		55,732,982.04	60,847,842.39	(5,114,860.35)	(8.41)	73,746,000.00	(18,013,017.96)	[illegible]
79 - Dumaguete City	Cristina G. Rona ARDO		135,945,381.50	117,484,717.67	18,460,663.83	15.73	133,840,000.00	2,105,381.50	1.57
13 CEBU CITY	**JAIME B. SANTIAGO**	P	1,241,737,749.84	1,034,590,119.29	207,147,630.55	20.02	1,450,618,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
80 - Mandaue City	Ramer D. Narvaez		389,723,020.49	297,065,712.17	92,657,308.32	31.19	395,726,000.00	(6,002,979.51)	[illegible]
81 - Cebu City	Estrella S. Lopez		480,193,434.55	377,767,219.49	102,426,215.06	27.11	569,345,000.00	(89,151,565.45)	[illegible]
82 - Cebu City South	Florante C. De Castro		147,393,437.67	152,590,662.63	(5,197,224.96)	(3.41)	209,037,000.00	(61,643,562.33)	[illegible]
83 - Talisay, Cebu	Wilma T Elvera		129,322,673.26	124,488,422.21	4,834,251.04	3.88	159,611,000.00	(30,288,326.76)	[illegible]
84 - Tagbilaran City	Rogelio T Baloga (ARDO) - OIC		95,105,183.68	82,678,102.79	12,427,080.89	15.03	116,897,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
14 TACLOBAN CITY	**ALFREDO V. MISAJON**	P	474,810,021.64	538,036,475.82	(63,226,454.18)	(11.75)	560,625,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
85 - Catarman, Northern Samar	Eduardo B. Gayas - OIC		32,352,278.96	25,305,381.76	7,046,897.20	27.85	33,246,000.00	(893,721.04)	[illegible]
86 - Borongan, Eastern Samar	Rolando B. Espina		35,959,762.78	27,138,181.13	8,821,581.65	32.51	28,448,000.00	7,511,762.78	26.41
87 - Catbalogan, Western Samar	Christina M. Cardona		44,285,008.98	35,051,075.55	9,233,933.43	26.34	46,584,000.00	(2,298,991.02)	[illegible]
88 - Tacloban City	Imelda D. Cebuano		205,579,549.93	146,798,304.14	58,781,245.79	40.04	266,762,000.00	(61,182,450.07)	(22.94)
89 - Ormoc City	Evangelina P. Calumpiano		124,514,928.04	277,001,787.98	(152,486,859.94)	(55.05)	150,183,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
90 - Maasin, Southern Leyte	Ma. Teresa Noemi A. Pizon (ARDO)		32,118,492.05	26,743,745.26	5,374,746.79	20.10	35,502,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
15 ZAMBOANGA CITY	**MAMA B. MARZOC**	P	332,062,702.72	333,004,811.83	(942,109.11)	(0.28)	383,124,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
91 - Dipolog City	Cesar S. Ampatu		51,233,579.24	46,613,189.53	4,620,389.71	9.91	52,891,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
92 - Pagadian City	Nasser A. Tanggor		61,677,434.76	60,475,613.29	1,201,821.46	2.38	67,779,000.00	(6,101,565.24)	[illegible]
93 - Zamboanga City	Sandato K. Mamaluddin		207,312,761.32	214,922,076.34	(7,609,315.02)	(3.54)	248,867,000.00	(41,554,238.68)	[illegible]
94 - Isabela, Basilan	Abdulhalik C. Abdua		9,743,351.57	9,684,457.69	58,893.88	0.61	10,846,000.00	(1,102,648.43)	[illegible]
95 - Jolo, Sulu	Datu Baktial J. Ahmad ,		7,604,880.98	7,083,290.81	521,590.16	7.36	8,042,000.00	(437,019.04)	[illegible]
96 - Bongao, Tawi-Tawi	Arsenio P. Aguilera		4,490,594.88	4,226,184.17	264,410.71	6.26	4,699,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
16 CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY	**JOSE N. TAN**	P	760,502,957.69	751,986,315.41	8,516,642.28	1.13	899,465,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
97 - Gingoog City	Concepcion E. Go		29,126,590.71	23,418,400.56	5,707,190.15	24.37	28,819,000.00	306,590.71	1.06
98 - Cagayan de Oro City	Emir U. Abutazil		422,564,854.44	429,099,404.20	(6,534,549.76)	(1.52)	507,012,000.00	(84,447,145.56)	[illegible]
99 - Malaybalay Bukidnon	Cuzon P. Azis		120,947,058.01	100,683,758.78	20,264,199.23	20.13	124,452,000.00	(3,504,941.99)	[illegible]
100 - Ozamis City	Estor S. Palala		50,323,532.92	55,509,797.60	(5,186,264.68)	(9.34)	70,929,000.00	(20,605,467.08)	[illegible]
101 - Iligan City	Wilson C. Dy		116,413,698.70	123,526,502.05	(8,112,804.25)	(6.57)	145,135,000.00	(28,721,301.30)	[illegible]
102 - Marawi City	Samer R. Muti		22,127,322.91	19,748,451.32	2,378,871.59	12.05	23,118,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
17 BUTUAN CITY	**MARCELINDA O. YAP**	P	251,673,593.09	249,018,190.30	2,655,402.79	1.07	288,558,000.00	(36,884,406.91)	[illegible]
103 - Butuan City	Edilberto C. Radaza		100,972,743.84	95,509,890.23	5,462,853.61	5.72	112,680,000.00	(11,707,256.16)	(10.39)
104 - Bayugan, Agusan del Sur	Nida Mantala Comandante ARDO		47,637,248.29	37,794,608.55	9,842,639.74	26.04	52,264,000.00	(4,626,751.71)	(8.85)
105 - Surigao City	Norilo L. Vasquez		53,764,885.19	58,529,820.91	(4,764,944.72)	(8.14)	63,810,000.00	(9,945,114.81)	(15.46)
106 - Tandag, Surigao del Sur	Jose Eric C. Furia		49,298,716.77	57,183,861.61	(7,885,144.84)	(13.79)	60,004,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
18 COTABATO CITY	**TAMANATAO S. AMEROL**	P	440,399,073.56	399,370,940.15	41,025,124.41	10.27	482,053,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
107 - Cotabato City	Mamapok G. Diro		149,046,357.71	119,384,157.13	29,662,200.58	24.85	127,137,802.00	21,908,555.71	[illegible]
108 - Kidapawan, Northern Cotabato	Muslimen L. Maca-Agir		72,506,478.12	67,887,851.80	4,618,626.32	6.80	74,662,749.00	(2,156,270.88)	[illegible]
109 - Tacurong, Sultan Kudarat	Bagro S. Saransamun		28,554,782.54	26,336,733.28	2,218,049.26	8.42	28,580,778.00	(25,995.46)	[illegible]
110 - General Santos City	Eduardo T. Obero		111,526,923.96	113,746,690.99	(2,219,767.03)	(1.95)	116,760,118.00	(5,233,194.04)	(4.48)
111 - Koronadal, South Cotabato	Salica Tagoranao (ARDO) - OIC		78,761,531.23	72,015,525.95	6,746,005.28	9.37	114,911,553.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
19 DAVAO CITY	**TEODORICA R. ARCEGA**	P	934,833,925.55	844,619,316.10	90,214,609.45	10.68	994,896,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]
112 - Tagum, Davao del Norte	Nicandro R. Suaybaguio - ACTG		164,658,176.30	135,018,772.31	29,639,403.99	21.95	173,342,000.00	(8,683,823.70)	[illegible]
113 - Davao City	Evelyn A. Sardido		688,067,283.68	631,822,504.61	56,244,779.07	8.90	732,276,000.00	(44,208,716.32)	(6.04)
114 - Mati, Davao Oriental	Joaquina L. Pondoc - OIC		31,067,486.07	28,931,865.00	2,135,621.07	7.38	34,094,000.00	(3,026,513.93)	(8.88)
115 - Digos, Davao del Sur	Leo O. Gonzales		51,040,080.50	48,846,174.18	2,193,906.32	4.49	55,186,000.00	[illegible]	[illegible]

Notes : Totals may not add up due to rounding
Figures in red indicate either a collection shortfall compared to the same period last year or a shortfall compared to goal
* Names of Regional Directors are written in bold letters

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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Iraq says neighbors also face risks

BAGHDAD—Iraq sent neighbors such as Turkey and Iran a wake-up warning Thursday about the risks they run if Washington attacks Baghdad, as the US kept up pressure on the regime.

In Israel, the daily Haaretz, quoting US intelligence sources, threatened the Jewish state could respond with nuclear weapons to a non-conventional attack by Iraq.

"If Iraq strikes at Israel with non-conventional weapons, causing massive casualties among the civilian population, Israel could respond with a nuclear retaliation that would eradicate Iraq as a country," the newspaper said.

US President George Bush's national security adviser led the verbal broadsides Thursday saying the West does not have "the luxury of doing nothing" about President Saddam Hussein.

Condoleezza Rice told the BBC there was a "very powerful moral case" for ousting the Iraqi leader, who is accused of developing nuclear, chemical and biological weapons again, but denies it strongly.

"This is an evil man who, left to his own devices, will wreak havoc again on his own population, his neighbors and, if he gets weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them, all of us," she said.

"There is a very powerful moral case for regime change," she added. "We certainly do not have the luxury of doing nothing."

However, Iraq put the spotlight on the dangers to which Washington's war-mongering exposes the region.

"Our Arab neighbors and others who willingly or unwillingly allow themselves to be carried along by the current of American arrogance and bend blindly to US plots must understand that US interests make no distinction between one side or another and if one is targeted today, the turn of others will come tomorrow or the day after," the influential daily Babel said.

"The greatest loss for Turkey will be its relations with Iraq," said the newspaper run by Saddam's powerful elder son Uday.

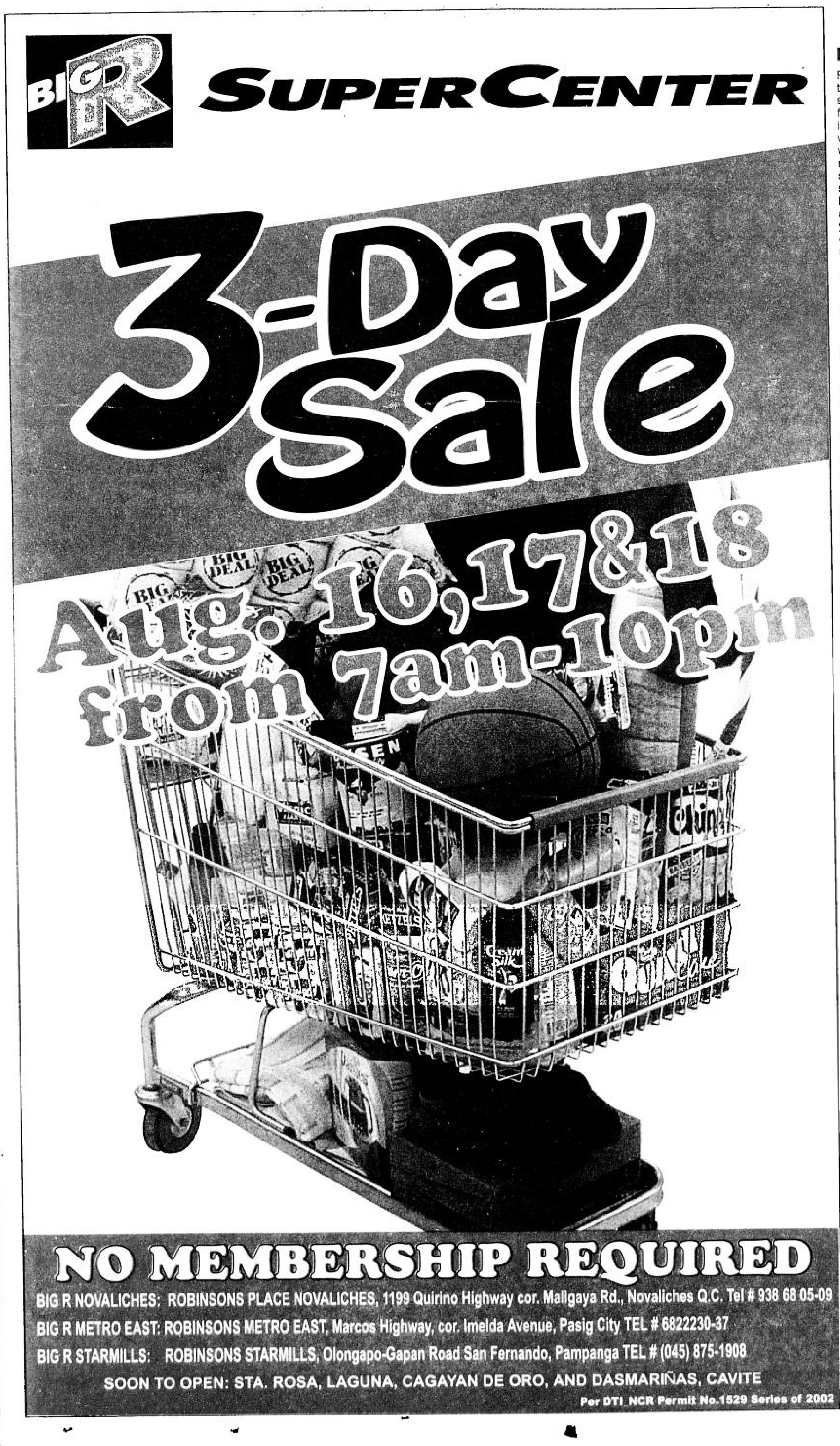
"No one, not even the Americans, can compensate for what we have given to Turkey," the daily stressed, presumably referring to cheap oil and general cross-border trade.

Other countries, of which only Iran was named, "will be threatened with break up, loss of strategic depth or will become a substitute homeland for the Palestinians to solve their conflict with the Zionists."

The tabloid accused unnamed countries of "courting" Washington or "sticking their heads in the sand so as not to see the trouble caused by this evil administration."

"These countries are very wrong in believing they will be sheltered from the hostile US policy.

In London, the Financial Times offered further support to the widespread belief that Washington is preparing to attack in 2003. It reported that the US administration has taken the unprecedent step of offering nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) millions of dollars to set up humanitarian relief projects in Iraq. *AFP*



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WORLDBRIEFS

Europe cities threatened

Prague—Surging floods threatening major central European cities have forced tens of thousands to flee their homes with hospital patients flown to safety and authorities desperately fighting to save national monuments and priceless works of art. The death toll from more than a week of torrential rain rose to at least 90, with rivers and reservoirs from Germany to Russia spilling their banks in some of the worst flooding seen in Europe in more than a 100 years. Cultural heritage sites, from medieval castles to irreplaceable works of art, were under threat in the 800-year-old Czech capital Prague and the German city of Dresden, while tourist attractions were sealed off and sandbagged. *AFP*

Fox outraged by execution

MEXICO CITY—President Vicente Fox called off a visit due later this month to US President George W. Bush's Texas ranch in protest at the execution of a Mexican citizen convicted of killing a Texas police officer. The cancellation is "a show of unequivocal repudiation of the execution of Mexican Javier Suarez Medina," said a statement read to the press late Wednesday by presidential spokesman Rodolfo Elizondo. Fox, the European Union and the United Nations had pressed Texas to commute Suarez's sentence to life in prison, as he had been denied access to consular advice, in violation of the Vienna Convention on diplomatic protocol. "President Bush respects President Fox's decision and the two have an excellent relationship and a strong friendship. It reflects the deep bond between the two countries," Orr said. "President Bush looks forward to his next meeting with President Fox," he added. Bush and Fox are next scheduled to see one another in October at a meeting of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (Apec), which this year will be hosted by Mexico at the port city of Los Cabos. Suarez, 33, was executed for the 1988 murder of an undercover police officer in Dallas, Texas. *AFP*

Israel kills Hamas leader

JERUSALEM—Israel's overnight killing of a wheelchair-bound Hamas leader—and the death of his neighbor—drew sharp Palestinian criticism and threats of a new round of reprisals Thursday. The killing followed the start of the trial of one of the Palestinian officials Israel holds responsible for the violence. Both sides are turning the murder and terrorism case against Marwan Barghouti, the West Bank leader of Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, into an indictment of the other. As he was led into the courtroom Wednesday, Barghouti shouted to reporters that Israel's "policy of assassinations, curfews, house demolitions, the policy of occupation will not lead to security." Nonetheless, peace efforts continued. Senior Israeli and Palestinian officials, who were scheduled to continue talks Thursday, agreed late Wednesday that Israel would release another $14 million of the $300 million in tax money it has been withholding from the Palestinians. Israel handed over one installment recently. The two sides also discussed an Israeli proposal to pull troops back from the Gaza Strip and turn security over to the Palestinians, according to a statement from the Israeli Foreign Ministry. AP

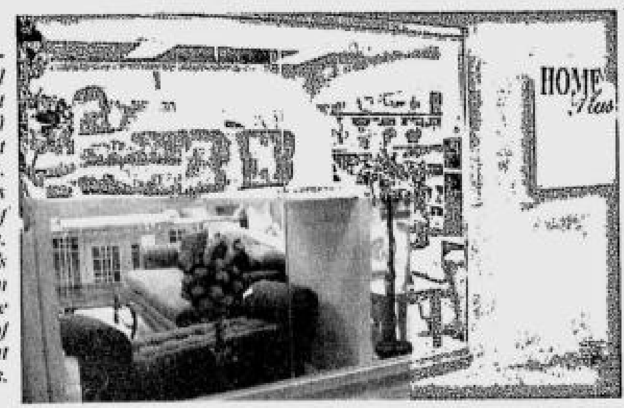
No right to protect sources

SINGAPORE—Singapore's High Court has ruled that journalists do not have the right to protect confidential sources, a local newspaper reported Thursday. The Straits Times reported that Judge Choo Han Teck of the high court ruled last month that newspaper journalists are not exempt from the court's power to order the disclosure of information in civil cases. Only lawyers and their clients are exempt from disclosure requirements, the paper quoted Choo as saying. *AP*

Indon general acquitted

JAKARTA—Indonesia's human rights tribunal on Thursday acquitted a police general of charges related to the carnage in East Timor in 1999, amid criticism and cynicism about the court proceedings. The acquittal of Brigadier General Timbul Silaen followed the three year jail sentence handed down to East Timor's last governor Abilio Jose Osorio Soares Wednesday, which was criticized as too lenient. The court has already been dismissed by many human rights advocates as fundamentally flawed, a view endorsed by United Nations Human Rights Commissioner Mary Robinson. Pro-Indonesia militias, created and supported by Indonesian military elements, waged a campaign of intimidation before the UN-held independence vote on Aug. 30, 1999, and of revenge afterwards. *AFP*

Homeplus, Furniture by Abenson, Opens in Metropoint Mall Taft



Homeplus opened its new store at Metropoint-Taft Avenue last July 27, 2002. The store displays a selection of living room sets, beds & tables. It's where you can enjoy home furnishings of different styles at affordable prices.

The newest Homeplus store recently opened at the 4th level of Metropoint Mall along Taft Ave. At present, Homeplus has 24 showrooms: **Laguna** (Waltermart Calamba, San Pablo, Sta. Rosa & Biñan), **Cavite** (Waltermart Imus, Dasmariñas, Ger. Trias, Lotus, Carmona), **E. Rodriguez, Quezon City, Sta. Lucia, Rustan's Cubao, Galleria, Shangri-La, Metropolis, Muntinlupa, Las Piñas, Alabang, Pearl Plaza, Riverbanks, Fairview, and Circle C Congressional.**

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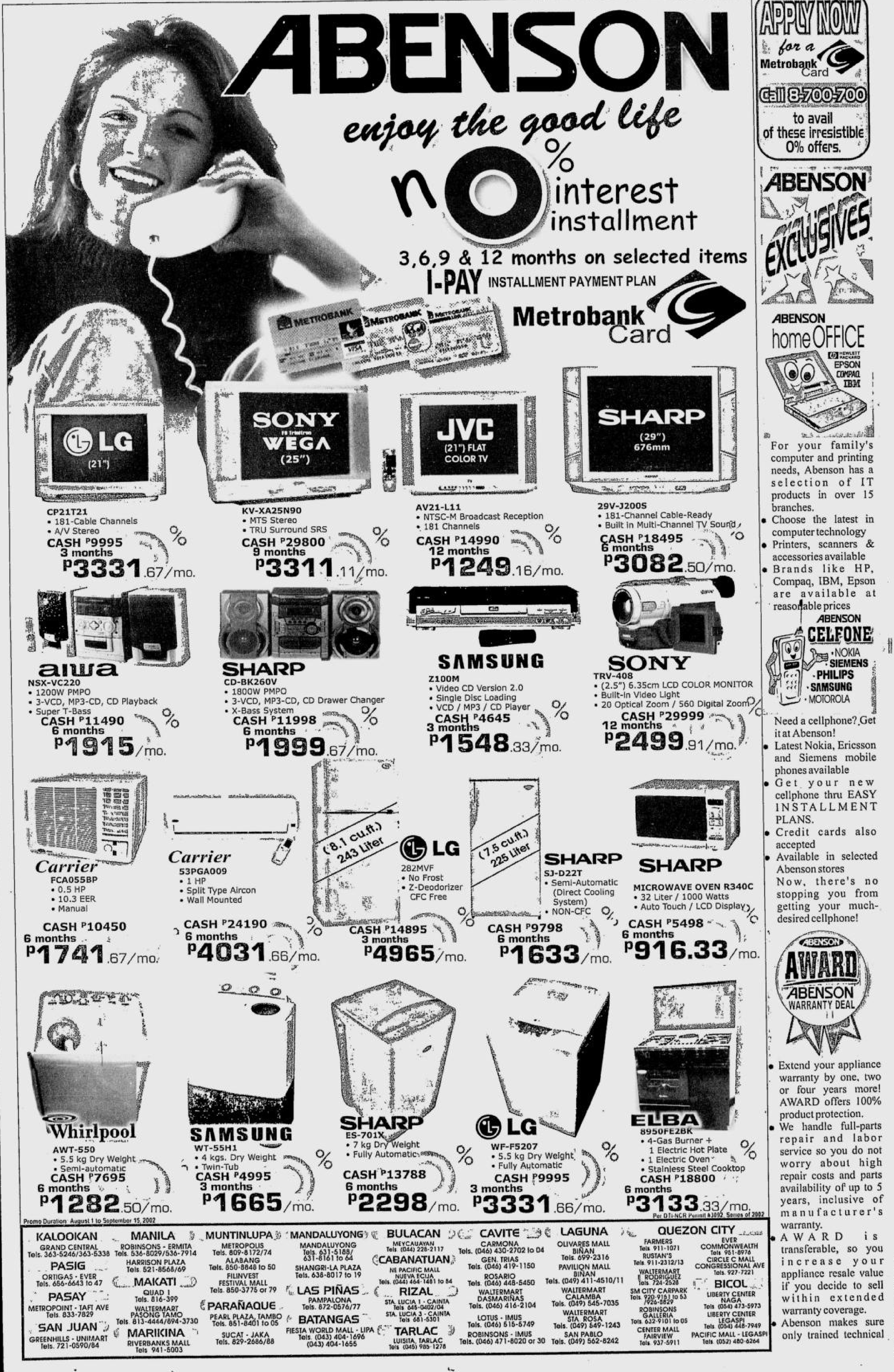

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Operators relaunching 'jueteng' in Pangasinan

By Yolanda Fuertes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

DAGUPAN CITY—Riding on the controversy spawned by the slot machine program of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp., jueteng operators are relaunching the illegal numbers game in Pangasinan, the INQUIRER learned.

The game temporarily stopped in the province after the relief of seven regional directors because of their alleged failure to stop jueteng.

But a jueteng operator, who asked not to be named, said the games would soon resume.

Because of the opposition, notably from Catholic Church leaders, the resumption of jueteng operations could be delayed, the operator told the INQUIRER.

Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz issued a pastoral letter condemning jueteng after he was informed by a top police official that a "bigger and more extensive" jueteng operation would be relaunched in the province.

The letter was read in masses in Catholic churches and schools in Pangasinan last weekend.

Cruz warned priests and nuns in the archdiocese against receiving any cash or gift from jueteng operators. "No one of us should receive anything in cash and or in kind from anyone with stained hands or from any source with dubious origin," he advised them.

He also called on public officials and members of nongovernment organizations and charitable institutions not to accept jueteng payola.

Dirty money

"This is stolen dirty money from dirty stealing hands for dirty intentions to steal more," he said.

A jueteng operator, a barangay official in a central Pangasinan town, said there was "no plan at all to bribe Cruz."

"That's his job to warn the people against jueteng," the operator said.

Cruz said the immediate target of jueteng operators is central Pangasinan. But the operator countered: "We will start in the towns where there are already deals." He declined to name the towns.

The operator said it was difficult to stop the people from gambling. "To stop jueteng is taking the masses' right to gamble," he said.

"*Hindi ba masama ang* casino (Isn't casino bad)? Cockfighting? These are legal but they cater to the upper and middle classes. What about the masses?" he said.

Cruz said that even in gambling, the discrimination between the rich and the poor was obvious, with the rich legally playing in the casinos and the poor illegally playing jueteng.

"If jueteng is immoral, casinos are certainly much more immoral. If it is wrong for the poor to gamble their money, how could it be right for the rich to gamble their big money," he said. "If jueteng is immoral, how can casinos be moral?"

However, he clarified that he was not for the legalization of jueteng but for the phaseout of casinos because "casinos are as immoral as jueteng."

Cruz said jueteng financiers were taking advantage of the poor's desperation to make easy money.

SEC. RAUL S. ROCO

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HIGH REGARD BING GONZALES/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

A copy of the controversial poster of resigned Education Secretary Raul Roco finds its way inside a preschool classroom in Davao City.

Benguet miners erect barricade

ITOGON, Benguet—Former employees of Benguet Corp. barricaded Thursday one of the mining firm's idle tunnels, freezing an experimental "partnership mine" program between the firm and this town's small-scale miners.

The program was designed in May 2000 to activate Benguet Corp.'s mine resources after bankruptcy forced the firm to shut down its operations in 1992, said Danilo Galang, the firm's district vice president for mine operations.

Many of the community's small-scale miners are former Benguet Corp. employees who were retired after the firm undertook a massive restructuring program a decade ago.

But the 400-strong Acupan Upper Camps Community Livelihood Association (Acuccla) has been objecting to the program's investment contracts with independent mine contractors, who are partners of community associations, said Bernabe Benneg, Acuccla president.

The program capitalizes on the investments of residents, which would be poured into small scale mining operations within deactivated underground mine tunnels of this town, Galang said.

It also allows community miners access to the firm's ball-milling and pulp ore processing plants for a fee, "to help concentrate and regulate mine pollution in the area," he said.

The contracts divide the revenues from the small-scale mining operations, with Benguet Corp. receiving a 40-percent share.

Benneg said small-scale miners associated with contractors have claimed that associations end up earning only P20 to P30 for each day's work from their investors because of uneven sharing arrangements.

The protesters blocked the main portals of the firm's Acupan mine tunnel in Barangay Virac. They have been protesting the contracts as early as Aug. 8. *Jette Dumpayan with a report from Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Imelda rushing Marcos' burial?

By Cristina Arzadon
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LAOAG CITY—While Joseph Estrada was the sitting president four years ago, the family of Ferdinand Marcos made no qualms of burying the late strongman next to the tombs of former presidents at the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Taguig, Metro Manila.

With Estrada landing in jail in 2001, that could have been the Marcoses' last ticket for the former president's entry to the hallowed grounds.

If it is an indication, the Marcoses are now scouting for sites right in their home province which, local folk say, is probably the next logical step to fulfill the late president's desire to be given a decent burial.

Searching for sites

During her visit to Ilocos Norte last week, former first lady Imelda Marcos spent two days visiting several towns and inspecting possible sites for her husband's final resting ground.

"I spent two days with Mrs. Marcos searching for a place that is acceptable to the Marcos family. The way I see it, she's in a hurry to bury the remains of Marcos," Batac Mayor Jesus Nalupta told the Inquirer.

Since 1993, Marcos' remains have been temporarily frozen and sealed inside a glass crypt at the family mausoleum in Batac town. Marcos died in exile in Hawaii in 1989. The mausoleum is located within Marcos' ancestral home, next to a museum housing various Marcos memorabilia.

Back when the issue of Marcos' burial at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani became national debate, Nalupta supported a resolution appealing to the Marcoses to have Marcos' remains buried instead in Batac.

"There are people who love him and there are people who hate him. At least in Batac, most Ilocanos still love Marcos. There is no other place where his remains can be accorded due honors than in Batac," he said.

But as to when the body of the late president will be buried is not yet certain.

MMSU

Mrs. Marcos is, at least, certain that her husband will be buried in a memorial ground within the property of a state-run university in Batac.

Named after Marcos' father, the Mariano Marcos State University campus is one among the many choices that Mrs. Marcos has reportedly short-listed following her several visits to the province.

"Ultimately, it will be here. This is where (Marcos) was born. It was his hope and desire to be laid to rest here (in Ilocos Norte)," Mrs. Marcos said in her recent visit here.

"We would like to integrate the body to the MMSU (so that) the spirit of his ideology would be a part of the university's foundation and vision."

Mrs. Marcos said she was also considering an offer of Sarrat officials to donate a property on a hilltop known as Peqa Hill in the town. Sarrat is where Marcos was born.

Located just across the town cemetery where Marcos' great grandparents were buried, the hill has a vantage view of the *poblacion* (town center).

Asked whether she was withdrawing her plans for a hero's burial at the Libingan, Mrs. Marcos said: "It will take a little time for that (plan) to be finished, to set up the memorial and all of that. But before that, there will be some kind of ceremonies giving him honors ... maybe in the Libingan and then put him to his final resting place here in Ilocos Norte where he was born."

Accessible

Nalupta said Mrs. Marcos had also considered acquiring a private property next to a one-hectare lot owned by her son, Ilocos Norte Gov. Ferdinand Marcos Jr., along a national road in Batac.

"This could be an ideal site because it is accessible. We just have to develop and expand the area and probably elevate it to fulfill the family's wish to have their patriarch buried in 'high grounds,'" he said.

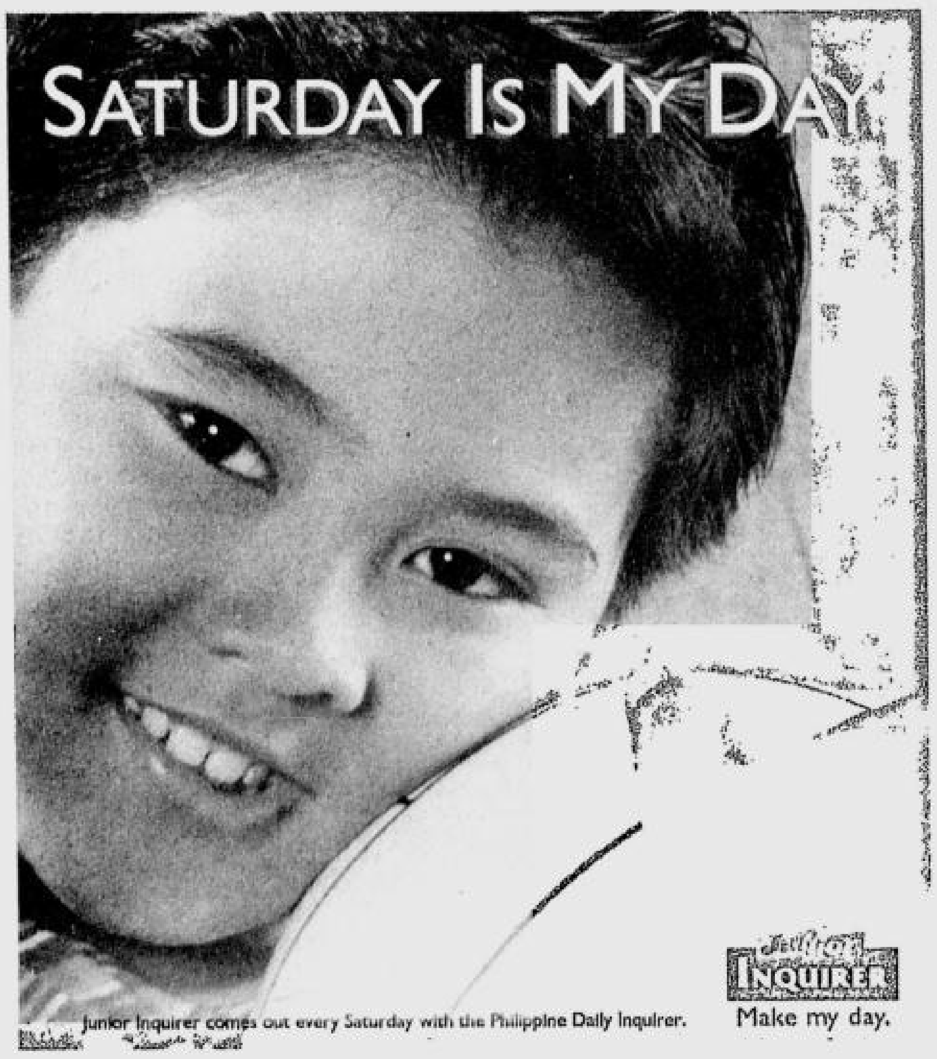
Before she left for Manila, Mrs. Marcos instructed Nalupta to talk to the owners if they were willing to sell the lot.

According to Nalupta, the Marcos widow, in one of her site visits, boarded a helicopter to inspect mountain ranges located in one Batac village.

He said Mrs. Marcos was planning to install cable cars to make the area accessible to anyone who might want to visit the place.

"But nothing is final yet. As far as Ilocanos are concerned, they just want Marcos' body to be buried so that all the debate that goes with his final resting place will be buried as well," he said.

"They have to face the reality that having Marcos buried at the Libingan is not a popular choice. There is no better choice than Batac. Marcos' townmates will benefit from having another landmark."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Bodies of 3 Negros fishermen found

BACOLOD CITY—The bodies of three fishermen were washed ashore in Basay town, Negros Oriental on Wednesday, two days after their motorboats sank due to strong waves spawned by tropical depression "Milenyo."

Rescue operations were immediately launched to locate their 11 companions, but officials of Hinobaan, Negros Occidental were not optimistic.

Hinobaan Mayor Francisco Bilbao said their chances of surviving the cold and hunger were nil.

Fourteen fishermen from Barangay Bacuyangan, Hinobaan boarded three pumpboats on Aug. 12 and sailed to the waters off southern Negros Occidental. The boats were battered by strong waves and capsized.

On Wednesday, the bodies of Cerelo Sanoy, Edgar Versuela and Danilo Blanco were found off Basay, 77 kilometers south of Hinobaan.

Still missing were Wilfredo Labrado, Benito Alegre, Merde Balugcas, Jason Sandoval, Renato Sandoval, Teodoro Amancio Jr., Ronal Amancio, Ildefonso Decena Jr., Jerry Tejada, a certain Patring and one Estoy.

No typhoon signal was raised over Negros Occidental on Monday when Milenyo induced the southwest monsoon triggering the rains that caused flash floods. Three persons died and at least 7,000 families were displaced.

The Regional Disaster Coordinating Council (RDCC) said the fatalities were Julito Lumanog, of La Castellana town; Joemar Francisco, of Himamaylan City; and an unidentified 50-year-old woman from Talisay City.

A total of 1,059 families were displaced by the floods in Sipalay City, and 243 families in Kabankalan City.

Hardest hit was Ilog town, were 2,581 families were affected, followed by Binalbagan, 2,250; Hinigaran, 418; Pulupandan, 173; Isabela, 127; Cauayan, 116; Hinobaan, 110; and Pontevedra, 22.

The floods damaged 946.40 hectares of agricultural land, mostly ricefields, in Bago City, Kabankalan and Sipalay and in the towns of Isabela, Valladolid, Ilog and Pulupandan. *Carla P. Gomez and Ma. Diosa Labiste, PDI Visayas Bureau*

ROUNDUP

Woman, 80, dies in fire

CEBU CITY—An 80-year-old woman was killed on Wednesday in a fire caused by an overheated electric fan inside her room in Gardenville Subdivision, Sitio Banawa, Barangay Guadalupe, this city. Lydia Flores, mother of the house owner, was trapped inside her room on the second floor, according to SFO1 Allan Arciaga, fire investigator. The fire was controlled in five minutes after the alarm was received by the city fire department at 12:28 p.m. ***Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau***

2 hurt in GenSan blast

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—At least two persons were injured when an unidentified man lobbed an explosive device onto a busy sidewalk near the public market here at around 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday. But police said it was unlikely that the Abu Sayyaf bandit group was involved unlike in the April 21 bombing incident inside the Fitmart Shopping Center that killed 15 people and wounded more than 60 others. Senior Supt. Bartolome Baluyot, Central Mindanao Police Director, said Wednesday's explosion was not intended to harm. "It was a mere blasting cap. There was no shrapnel," Baluyot said. ***Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Tanjay exec faces rap

TANJAY CITY, Negros Oriental—The National Bureau of Investigation has recommended to the Ombudsman in the Visayas the prosecution of Tanjay's city legal officer, Roy Lozano, for allegedly engaging in private practice even after he was employed by City Hall, in violation of Article 71 (falsification of public documents) of the Revised Penal Code. NBI-Dumaguete chief Pedro Diaz said Lozano, appeared in court at least four times as a private practitioner after he was appointed city legal officer on July 2, 2001. Lozano admitted appearing in courts for three civil cases that he handled before joining the city government, but he maintained he did not violate any law. ***Romy G. Amarado, PDI Visayas Bureau***

Bohol awardees

TAGBILARAN CITY—Four establishments and two hospitals were cited in the first Bohol Environmental Best Practices awards. Named winners were Metro Centre Hotel and Convention Center in the hotel and accommodation category, and the Gov. Celestino Gallares Memorial Hospital in the hospital and medical center category. Also cited were the Bohol Tropics Resort Club (resort), JJ's Seafoods Village (restaurant), Bohol Machine Shop (metal fabrication and motor repair shop), and the Ramiro Community Hospital (hospital and medical center). ***Chito A. Fuentes, PDI Visayas Bureau***

Security officer slain

COTABATO CITY—An unidentified gunman shot and killed the chief security officer of the state-ran University of Southern Mindanao in Kabacan, Cotabato on Monday night, police reported yesterday. Narciso Andres died from multiple bullet wounds inflicted by a 12-gauge shotgun. The attack occurred at the height of stricter security measures being implemented on campus after the killing of Prof. Elvira Rendon in June. ***Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Recall poll ordered

THE Commission on Elections yesterday ordered the holding of a recall election for the mayorship of Puerto Princesa City as it dismissed for lack of merit a petition of the city's incumbent mayor to nullify the results of the July 2 preparatory recall assembly (PRA). Giving due course to PRA Resolution No. 01-02, Comelec set the election for Sept. 7. It found the petition for the recall of Mayor Victorino Dennis Socrates to be sufficient in form and substance. Socrates had earlier sought the junking of the PRA resolution, which was signed by 312 of the city's 528 barangay officials. ***Armand Nocum***

Mourning family marks birthday of slain caregiver

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

MINALIN, Pampanga—Death and grief cannot overcome the joy of having a "good daughter, sister, wife and mother."

Despite her death in the hands of a Palestinian suicide bomber in Israel last Aug. 4, the family of Filipina caregiver Adelina Cunanan celebrated her birthday on the eve of her interment.

"For her birthday, we're having a small *salo-salo* (get-together)," said Herminio Lagunilla, Cunanan's older brother.

Cunanan, the fifth in a brood of 11, turned 44 yesterday. She will be buried today or six days after her badly-mangled body, sealed in a wooden crate, arrived here on Saturday night.

She will be buried at the Good Shepherd Memorial Park in the City of San Fernando, some 15 kilometers north of Minalin. The cemetery in her hometown is under knee-high, murky floodwaters.

Lagunilla said the birthday celebration would be the family's way of remembering a "generous and kind soul."

Cunanan was the family breadwinner even when she already had her own family. She had two children.

She had celebrated her birthdays away from home since she started working in Israel five years ago, her brother said.

During those years, her mother Inez and father Pablo had offered Mass and cooked noodles to celebrate her birthday and to pray for her safety while working abroad.

Inez on Wednesday supervised a team preparing the meals, which will be served on Cunanan's birthday.

Lagunilla said the childhood friends of Cunanan, vendors at the Minalin public market where she sold noodles, her friends among Filipino caregivers who have returned to the country and her relatives were all coming to the birthday luncheon.

Still, the wake had become a tearful reunion for the Cunanan family, he said.

Cunanan's husband Henry arrived on Tuesday from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Neil, her 20-year-old son came from Cebu. Gladys, her 17-year-old daughter, who had been at her mother's side since Saturday had been a pillar of strength, consoling her father and brother.

The couple agreed to work abroad to build their own home in San Fernando and save money for Gladys' medical schooling.

"The family is calm now. We have accepted her death. We have given to God our pain from her loss," Lagunilla said.

In Minalin, local officials said the families of more than 100 Filipino caregivers from the town have turned frantic, requesting their kin to come back to escape the risks of suicide blasts in Israel as tension rose there over territorial conflicts with Palestinians.

"It takes a lot of courage for our *kabalen* (townmates) to be working in a war-torn country. Their relatives here are so concerned of their safety," Mayor Edgar Flores said.

Boy dies, 30 others hurt in Laguna road accident

CABUYAO, Laguna—A 3-year-old child died with 30 others were injured when a passenger bus hit an oil trailer on the Southern Luzon Expressway in Cabuyao, Laguna on Wednesday.

John Aron Macaraig, 3, of San Jose, Batangas, died at 9:45 p.m. while being revived by doctors at the University of Perpetual Help Hospital (UPHH) in Biñan, Laguna, according to Vicky Delleva, UPHH admitting section staff member

His mother Rosita, 23, suffered serious injuries and was operated on, Delleva said.

Three others who suffered "blunt trauma" are still confined in the hospital. They were identified as Cresencia Chavez, 53, of Cavinti, Laguna; Arsenio Alcaraz, 57, of Marilao, Bulacan; and Evelyn Teneral, 51, of San Jose, Batangas.

Fourteen of the victims, who were brought to the same hospital, had minor injuries and were discharged, according to Delleva.

Cynthia Dino, radio operator of Philippine National Construction Corp., said 12 other victims who suffered minor injuries were brought to the Muntinlupa Hospital.

Dino said the JAM Transit bus, with license plate No. DVX-351, was trying to overtake the Shell trailer tanker, with license plate No. PYX-573, but hit its rear at 10:48 a.m.

The bus driver lost control of the steering wheel, causing the vehicle to swerve toward the center island and turn upside down.

The accident stalled traffic along the Cabuyao portion of the SLEX for one hour. *Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

7 NPA rebels killed in Aurora encounter

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Seven communist rebels were killed while three others were seriously wounded in an encounter with government troops on Saturday in Aurora, Army officers reported Wednesday.

The death toll from the 30-minute clash at Sitio Salacsac in Barangay Ditumabo in San Luis town was confirmed by Col. Jovenal Narcise, chief of the 702nd Infantry Brigade, when reached by the INQUIRER by phone in Bongabon, Nueva Ecija.

Narcise said troops from the 70th Infantry Battalion were still verifying the identities of the slain rebels.

Army soldiers have been pursuing a New People's Army unit in the area since Aug. 10, he said. They reached the hinterland village of Sitio Pulo in Barangay Sarah, also in San Luis, on Wednesday.

A 30-minute firefight erupted in the area between government soldiers and NPA rebels led by Delfin Pimentel, also known as Ka Medy, Narcise said.

The rebels left their dead comrades in Pulo, it was learned.

An M-1 rifle, a 12-gauge homemade shotgun, a .22 cal. pistol and several bullets were recovered from the scene of the encounter, the Army said. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

FOODFEST TURNS SOUR

Baguio City students downed by tainted muffins

BAGUIO CITY—It was a food festival that turned sour.

Thirty-six students and four teachers, including the school principal, of the Pines City National High School annex here were taken to the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center (BGHMC) on Wednesday after eating pineapple muffin which the students cooked during the school's food festival.

Dr. Manuel Quirino, chief of the BGHMC emergency unit, said the victims were believed poisoned by a powdery substance, which the students mistakenly mixed with other ingredients.

"(But) we will still be testing the muffins to determine what toxic substance poisoned the victims," he said.

Quirino said Jeaneth Buteng, a second year high school student, was declared in critical condition after suffering from complications.

A teacher told the INQUIRER that the students started vomiting and suffered from nausea and headache at 12:30 p.m. after a classroom picnic.

School principal Rachel Bugtong was also rushed to the hospital.

Bugtong and three other teachers ate the muffins as they were among the judges during the cooking contest.

The food festival, a class competition among sophomore home economics students, was a requirement of the new subject Makabayan, which was initially offered to all public high school students this school year.

The students were supposed to bake peanut cookies and not pineapple muffins, but one of them placed "too much powder-like ingredients (and) the cookies became muffins," a victim said in Filipino.

The main ingredients for cookies, according to her, were a small amount of ground meat, pineapple tidbits, flour and peanut.

The powdery substance was not included, but a student got it from the cupboard of the school's home economics room.

Quirino said more students showed symptoms of poisoning but they refused hospital treatment. *Jovelyn Reyes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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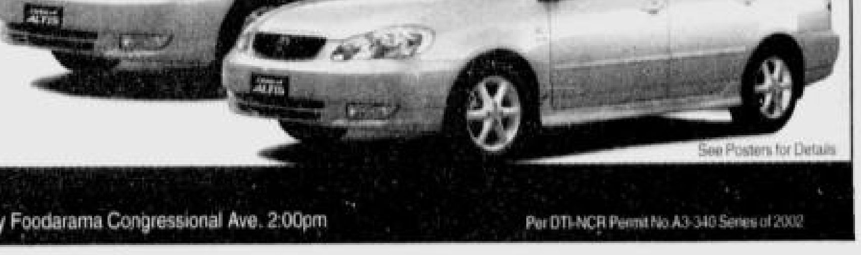

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Gov't revives gun raps vs Satur; 'squeeze play' tactics assailed

From page A1

People's Army, the military arm of the Communist Party of the Philippines, in its list of foreign terrorist organizations.

The other day, the Dutch government also announced it was blocking all bank accounts of Jose Ma. Sison, the communist founder now on self-exile in The Netherlands, because he was allegedly involved in terrorism.

President Macapagal-Arroyo expressed hope that with these developments communist rebels would be forced to return to the peace table.

But Ocampo said President Macapagal and her advisers had a "wrong reading of the character of the NDF-CPP-NPA that it could be pressured to negotiate in a position of weakness."

He said that since peace initiatives between government and communist rebels began in 1986, the movement had taken a stance that it was not going to the peace table "on a framework of giving up its principles and struggle without a clear common understanding with government on the root causes of their armed conflict."

He said "squeeze play" tactics would not work because the communist rebels might just wait to talk peace with another administration.

Mere procedure

But Judge Mariano yesterday said the revival of Ocampo's case had nothing to do with the government's renewed crackdown on communist rebels.

"It's merely procedural," she told the INQUIRER. "The case is included in my docket but I can't do anything about it since I don't have jurisdiction over it (yet)."

Ocampo said the case was archived in September 1992 after the Court of Appeals upheld a regional trial court ruling that rendered a search warrant issued against him and his wife illegal.

Members of the defunct Constabulary Security Group, then headed by Col. Robert Delfin, stormed the couple's apartment in Makati City on July 27, 1989 and supposedly seized a .45 cal. pistol and .38 cal. revolver. Ocampo said the guns had been planted.

From 1989 to 1992, the local court conducted a series of hearings on their petition for bail but they were never arraigned, Mariano said.

"Once they are arraigned, I will have jurisdiction over the case. Now it will be up to the prosecutors if they would still proceed with the case or have it dismissed."

But if government prosecutors insisted on having the case revived, Ocampo said the move would prove that the Macapagal administration was indeed harassing his party-list group and the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan).

"I think there are intentions to link Bayan to the NPA so we could be disqualified in the next elections," he said.

Rafael Mariano, Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas chair, said the revival of the case after more than a decade pointed to a worsening climate of political repression.

"Ms Macapagal's escalating political repression clearly aims to remove all roadblocks for the sake of Uncle Sam. She did it to Vice President Guingona, and she's doing it with the representatives of Bayan Muna," Mariano said.

Mariano warned that Ocampo's case might become a precedent for the revival of cases against other former political detainees and those suspected as communists.

Charter change

The government panel negotiating with the NDF is including suggested amendments to the 1987 Constitution in the draft of a proposed "final peace agreement" with communist rebels.

"There is a need to review the Constitution to make it more attuned to the times and we are incorporating some proposals in the draft," chief negotiator Silvestre Bello III said in a phone interview.

Bello said that these Charter change proposals involve, among others, "electoral reforms that would make elections in the country more democratic."

"There are perceptions, including those from the NDF, that elections in the country are tailor-fit only for the rich and the powerful," Bello said.

Bello pointed to one particular proposal, made by Speaker Jose de Venecia, which involves "government funding for political parties to level the playing field and allow poor but deserving candidates to campaign and run for public office."

But Bello declined to elaborate on the proposed Charter changes.

The panel, composed of Bello, as chair, and Agrarian Reform Secretary Hernani Braganza, Rene Sarmiento, Risa Hontiveros-Baraquel and Chito Gascon, is scheduled to meet today to finalize the draft.

Bello said that the same draft, which may run up to 20 pages, would be presented for approval to the President next week.

Controversial issue

Bello said he was aware that Charter change was a controversial issue and that President Macapagal herself had said previously that she wanted to complete the country's economic recovery first before venturing into constitutional reforms.

The former justice secretary said the draft would also incorporate economic reforms to include the implementation of an "effective land reform program," enhancement of agricultural productivity, and "national industrialization."

Bello likewise said that the panel might also include a provision calling for the review of the government's adherence to the policy of economic globalization.

"If there is such a review, it will be undertaken by the two parties," Bello said.

The NDF has been demanding withdrawal by the government from its commitments to the World Trade Organization, claiming that trade liberalization was wreaking havoc on the Philippine economy.

A separate section on the disposition of forces, or the demobilization of rebel combatants, will be also be part of the draft.

Formal peace talks were derailed in June last year after communist rebels killed former Cagayan Rep. Rodolfo Aguinaldo, a former Constabulary intelligence colonel accused of several human rights violations. Another group of communist rebels shot dead Quezon Rep. Marcial Punzalan who was accused of coddling drug lords.

The draft of the proposed agreement being finalized by the Bello panel will be presented through "back channels" to the NDF, whose negotiators are based in The Netherlands.

In a luncheon with Malacañang reporters on Wednesday, President Macapagal noted that she had designated Secretary Silvestre Afable, chief of the Presidential Management Staff, as her lead "back channel" negotiator. ***With a report from Gerald Lacuarta***

A STRONG, silent type is unmoved by indigenous women protesting the Macapagal administration's all-out war policy during their rally at the gate of Camp Aguinaldo led by the Katutubong Mamamayan ng Pilipinas DENNIS SABANGAN

German hostage tells CNN Erap . . .

From page A1

the 21 people the Abu Sayyaf seized from Sipadan, a diving resort in Malaysia, on April 23, 2000. The hostages included nine Malaysians, two French, two South Africans, two Filipinos, two Finns and a Franco-Lebanese.

Renate was freed ahead of her husband and son on July 17, 2000, allegedly after Libya had paid $1 million for her release.

Wallert, a geography teacher at the Theodor Heuss High School, said captivity was "very, very difficult because on one side, were our kidnappers, the terrorists, and on the other, were (also) not good guys."

"I mean, we were also in the hands of Joseph Estrada and of Robert Aventajado, and these two definitely were involved. They took part of the money that was paid for ransom and they forced the price up," Wallert told CNN anchor Coleen McEdwards.

Wallert did not say how he learned about the money pocketed by Estrada and Aventajado. Neither did he mention the amount paid to the Abu Sayyaf.

But a German weekly magazine Der Spiegel (The Mirror) reported in December 2000 that a total of $20 million was paid to the bandit group by the Libyan government, of which 40 percent ($8 million) allegedly went to Estrada and 10 percent ($2 million) to Aventajado.

The magazine said it based its story on satellite phone conversations between Aventajado and Abu Sayyaf leader Galib Andang, alias Commander Robot.

The conversations were tapped by the German intelligence service (Bundesnachrichtendienst or BND). Der Spiegel said the BND was able to listen in on all conversations between Aventajado and Robot because it secretly passed a satellite phone to Robot at the start of the hostage crisis.

Estrada speaks

"I don't know anything as far as the negotiations are concerned. My only concern then was the safety of the hostages," Estrada said.

Questions on "money matters," he said, should be addressed to Aventajado and Azzarouq, who was "holding the purse" during the hostage crisis.

Estrada said whatever ransom paid at the time did not come from the Philippine government.

Aventajado, former chair of the presidential committee on flagship projects, denied he and Estrada jacked up the ransom and pocketed $8 million and $2 million respectively.

Aventajado said Azzarouq was the one who was on top of the negotiations. Aventajado admitted he knew about the ransom payment "to a certain degree but the Libyan envoy was the one who knew that."

He then turned the tables on the Wallerts.

"I absolutely deny it. There was no dishonesty on my part. If there was dishonesty, it is on the part of the Wallerts. I know they made money out of it," Aventajado said.

"If I was corrupt, I would have taken advantage of the multibillion-peso flagship projects. But I did not," he said.

Book promo

Aventajado said the Wallerts made the allegation against him in order to promote their upcoming book about their captivity.

"Why come out with these allegations only now? I heard their book is about to be released so maybe this is the reason for these allegations," Aventajado said.

He said he heard that the Wallerts earned $1 million for media interviews about their abduction.

He noted that the Wallert couple had documented their captivity. He recalled that when he first went to a Abu Sayyaf lair to try to establish communication lines with Robot, Werner asked him to buy him batteries for his camera.

"He said he needed pictures for his book," Aventajado said. When Renate was released, Aventajado recalled that she was very composed until she saw the media. "She suddenly collapsed in my arms and started asking 'what about my husband?'" Aventajado said. He added that Renate had also talked about pictures for their book.

Aventajado had a suggestion for Azzarouq. "They claimed we got our cut from the $10 million that went to the Abu Sayyaf. But they reportedly paid $20 million to $25 million so maybe Azzarouq would like to explain to his government where the $15 million went," he said.

The former hostage negotiator said he had some rivalry with Azzarouq because Robot, who shunned the Libyan envoy, had asked him to do the negotiations.

But Aventajado said he could not negotiate because of the government's no-ransom policy. "So I would not be surprised if Azzarouq fed wrong information to the Germans," he said.

Jeopardized

Wallert said his wife, who got sick during her 85-day captivity, could have been released much earlier on account of the "diplomatic activities" meant to obtain their freedom.

"And I think it was Robert Aventajado, the chief negotiator on the Philippine side, who jeopardized that," Wallert said.

He admitted though that he did not know exactly how Aventajado jeopardized the negotiations or how the ransom was paid.

"Not perfectly well but I've talked to some people, for example to Rajab Azzarouq and to Pavol Kusine (Parouk Hussin) who is now governor in the southern Philippines and who also negotiated for us," the German said.

"In our case, it's definitely true that the Libyans were the good guys. And I mean, it was Dr. Azzarouq who successfully negotiated for us and it was the Darfhi (Gadhafi) Charity Foundation which paid the ransom," he said.

Wallert said he and his family had thought they were "in perfect peace" while on vacation in Sipadan.

"But nobody could imagine that the Abu Sayyaf, who had done kidnappings before, would ever go abroad and get people from Malaysia," he said.

He said 18 heavily armed men on two "tiny boats" swooped down on the resort and took them and other Western tourists.

Wallert said the hostages had to sit on 10-meter-by-one-meter boats for the 20-hour trip. They spent their captivity in the jungles of Sulu.

Wallert said the hostages couldn't move around and were confined to huts "but we were basically treated correctly."

He said food was a problem in the first weeks because the Philippine military was pursuing their abductors. "There was only rice and sometimes there was no water because we were surrounded by the military but they (Abu Sayyaf) didn't torture us. They didn't tie us up, so this is what I mean when I say they treated us correctly," the German said.

He said Renate was really sick and did not just pretend to be sick.

He and his family are now fine, very happy and very grateful to those who helped them to freedom, according to Wallert.

"And we are happy we are out and we did not have the same fate as Martin Burnham," he said.

Burnham was one of three Americans abducted by the Basilan-based Abu Sayyaf group of Abu Sabaya from a resort in Palawan on May 31, 2001.

Burnham died on June 7 this year as Filipino soldiers exchanged fire with the bandits during a rescue operation in Sirawai, Zamboanga del Norte. Burnham's wife Gracia was rescued but another hostage, Filipino nurse Edibora Yap died during the rescue operation.

The Philippine military was able to pinpoint the bandits and engage them in a firefight only after the United States provided it with training and sophisticated equipment.

JDV endorses impeach rap vs Tancangco

From page A1

House Majority Leader Neptali Gonzales yesterday said the rules committee, which he chairs, had already included the complaint in the order of business for Tuesday next week. This means the complaint would be referred to the House committee on justice.

"It's likely that within the month the complaint would be taken up by the justice committee because it has 10 session days to act on it," Gonzales said in a phone interview.

Bacolod Rep. Monico Puentevella, who led 61 congressmen in endorsing the complaint filed by civil society groups against Tancangco, thanked De Venecia for "acting expeditiously" on the complaint.

"For the good of the country and national government, this complaint should be taken up the sooner the better," Puentevella said in a phone interview.

De Venecia endorsed the complaint last Monday, Gonzales said.

"As Speaker of the House of Representatives, I am mandated to uphold the constitutional process," De Venecia said in a statement.

His endorsement came six days after groups led by the National Movement for Free Elections filed the complaint in the House.

The groups accused Tancangco of betraying the public trust and of culpably violating the Constitution in the way she performed her job as Comelec commissioner. This included her failure as chair of the modernization committee to automate the 2001 elections.

Under impeachment rules, the House justice committee will first determine whether a complaint is sufficient in form. If it is, then the committee will next determine whether it is sufficient in substance. Only then can a hearing of the complaint be made. The justice committee is chaired by Rep. Marcelino Libanan.

Puentevella expressed hope that his colleagues in the House would act on the Tancangco complaint "judiciously."

It will be the second time this year that the House will consider an impeachment complaint against a constitutional officer.

Earlier this year, civil society groups filed a second impeachment complaint against then Ombudsman Aniano Desierto. But when the justice committee dismissed the first complaint filed previously for being insufficient in substance, the second complaint became moot.

Joma thinking of retirement

From page A1

self-exile for years.

Even so, Sison is in no mood to heed Manila's call for him to return to the Philippines and negotiate a peaceful settlement to the Maoist insurgency that he launched 34 years ago.

"I am in fact thinking of retiring because I have done too much," Sison yesterday told local radio station dzBB from his base in the Netherlands.

"There are very good and very brave party members who can handle the job," he added.

Sison said the entire panel of negotiators of the communist-led National Democratic Front "will also retire so they will not be bothered (by the peace talks) anymore."

The United States last week placed the CPP and its 12,000-strong armed wing, the New People's Army, on its list of foreign terrorist organizations, making it illegal for Americans or US entities to give material support to them.

It also directed American banks to block assets held by Sison and his rebel group. Sison and his fellow communist rebels were likewise banned from US soil.

Acting on a US request, the Netherlands on Tuesday announced it was freezing the bank accounts of Sison and his rebel group. The Dutch government urged the European Union to follow suit.

In the same radio interview, Sison accused President Macapagal-Arroyo and the US government of conniving to stifle legitimate dissent.

Ms Macapagal on Wednesday said she was hoping that the measures taken by the US and Dutch governments would force Sison and his group to return to the negotiating table.

She noted that the talks, suspended last year when NPA guerrillas gunned down two legislators, were in "limbo" even as "back-channeling" contacts between government and NDF negotiators were continuing.

No effect

Lt. Col. Michael Manquiquiz, Army spokesperson, said that Sison's retirement plan would still not prompt Dutch authorities to lift the freeze on his bank accounts.

"It has no relevant effect. It's not the person but the account that will be frozen," Manquiquiz said.

Whatever, Sison told dzBB that he was still able to withdraw from his personal bank account despite an announced Dutch government freeze on his funds.

"They have nothing to go after except for the measly accounts of poor individuals and small groups," he said.

"As of yesterday, the amount of my wealth was 1,245.46 euros ($1,220.70) and by next week that will all be wiped out when our orders for groceries and food come in," he said.

Sison said he withdrew 100 euros ($98) from his account on Wednesday to check whether the freeze order had taken effect. He said he has not received any notice from Dutch authorities.

"I want them to freeze my accounts to dramatize the cruelty of the imperialists, including the Dutch government," he said. "This is cruel because the amount is only enough for subsistence."

He added that his money had come from the Dutch social welfare agency "because I am not allowed to teach or to earn a larger income" as a political refugee.

He said he saved money by being a vegetarian.

Sison, 63, founded the CPP in 1968 and was arrested in 1977 under then dictator Ferdinand Marcos. He was released after Corazon Aquino took power in 1986. He has been living abroad since 1987 and has the title of a "political consultant" of the NDF in peace talks.

He denied Philippine government claims that the rebels had extorted money from businessmen and politicians and had received large contributions from foreign supporters.

Let's see

"Let us see how much the Dutch government can come up with if they rigidly accede to the request of the US government," he said.

He said the rebels were "self-reliant" and most funds come from contributions of peasants, workers and other supporters in the Philippines.

National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said freezing rebel funds would "tighten the valves insofar as the terrorist capability" of the groups are concerned.

He had no figure for rebel funds abroad, but estimated that the insurgents raised about P108 million in 1999, P93 million in 2000, P98 million in 2001 and about P15 million so far this year. ***Reports from TJ Burgonio, AP and AFP***

Ping says dismissal of libel case expected

By Rocky Nazareno

OPPOSITION Sen. Panfilo Lacson yesterday said he was not surprised that the Department of Justice ordered the dismissal of the libel case he filed against several INQUIRER editors, reporters and columnists, considering that Justice Secretary Hernando Perez "is a major party to the vilification campaign against me."

It was expected, Lacson said in a statement.

Justice Undersecretary Ma. Merceditas N. Gutierrez had earlier signed a resolution endorsing the reversal of an earlier resolution of Makati 3rd Assistant City Prosecutor Henry M. Salazar recommending the filing of libel charges against the respondents.

Named respondents in the libel suit were INQUIRER publisher Isagani Yambot, editor in chief Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc, news editor Artemio Engracia Jr., Metro editor Louie Camino, reporters Christine Herrera and Carlito Pablo and columnists Ramon Tulfo and Recah Trinidad. Also charged was military intelligence chief Victor Corpuz.

Lacson said the DOJ decision to set aside the case would not be binding on the courts because the information had already been filed and the resolution "is still subject to the sound discretion of the judge hearing the case."

Aussie ex-cop denies sex rap

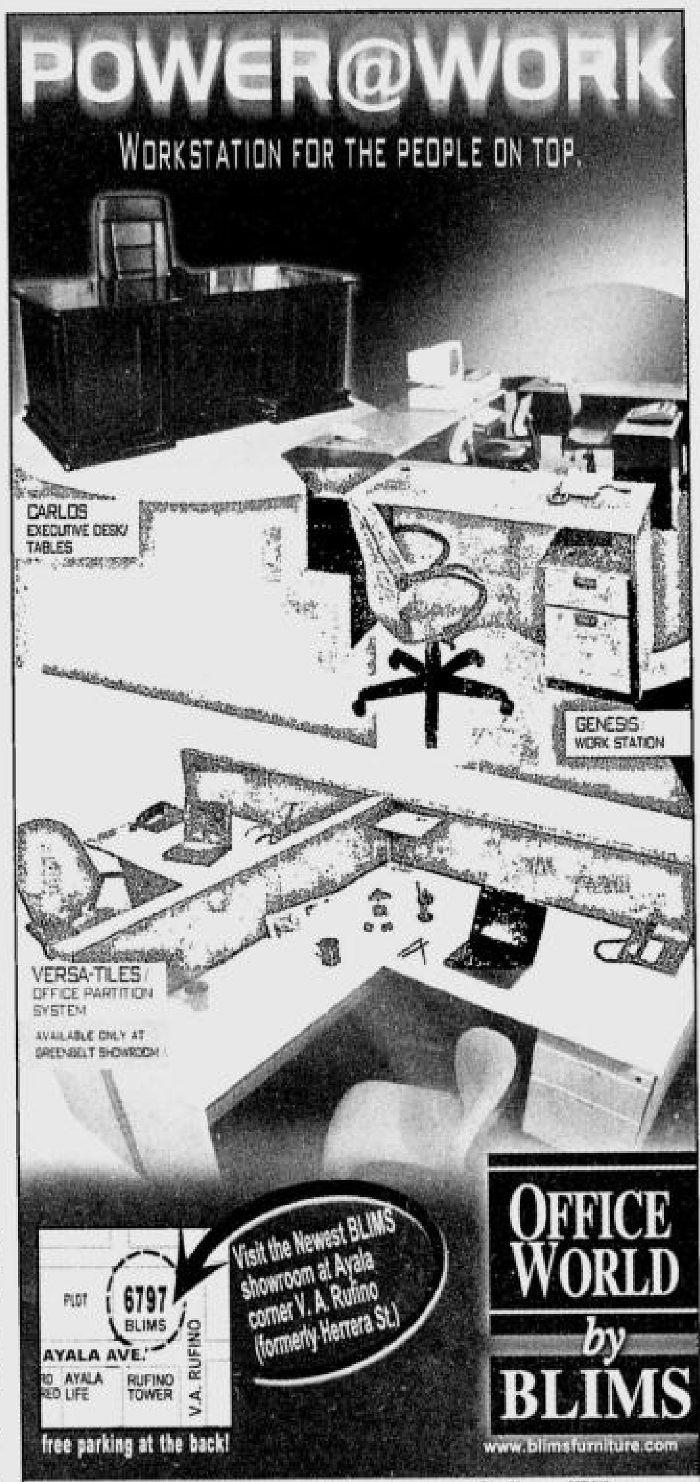
BRISBANE, Australia—A retired Australian police officer was arraigned Thursday on charges of sexually abusing a 12-year-old girl in the Philippines.

The 52-year-old man appeared in Brisbane Magistrates Court to face charges he had sex with a girl under the age of 16 on six occasions in July 1998 in Angeles and Olongapo Cities in the Philippines.

The man, whose identity was not released, did not enter a plea. He denied the charges.

His attorney, Jim Coburn, told the court that his client had been involved in a long-term relationship with a woman in the Philippines, and the allegations concerned her 12-year-old niece.

Coburn claimed the woman's family had trumped up the allegations in a bid to extort money from his client. *AP*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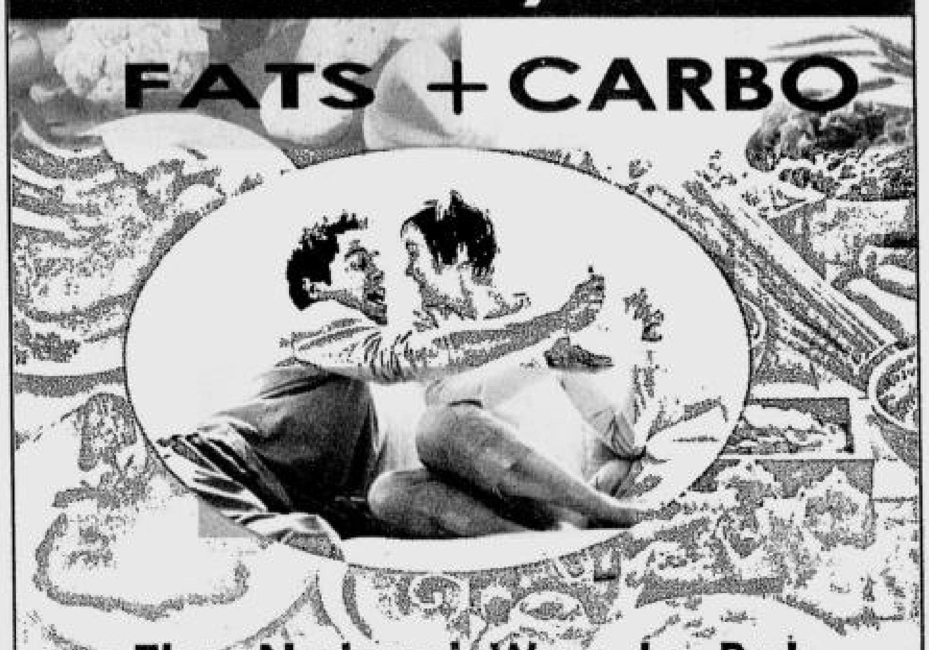

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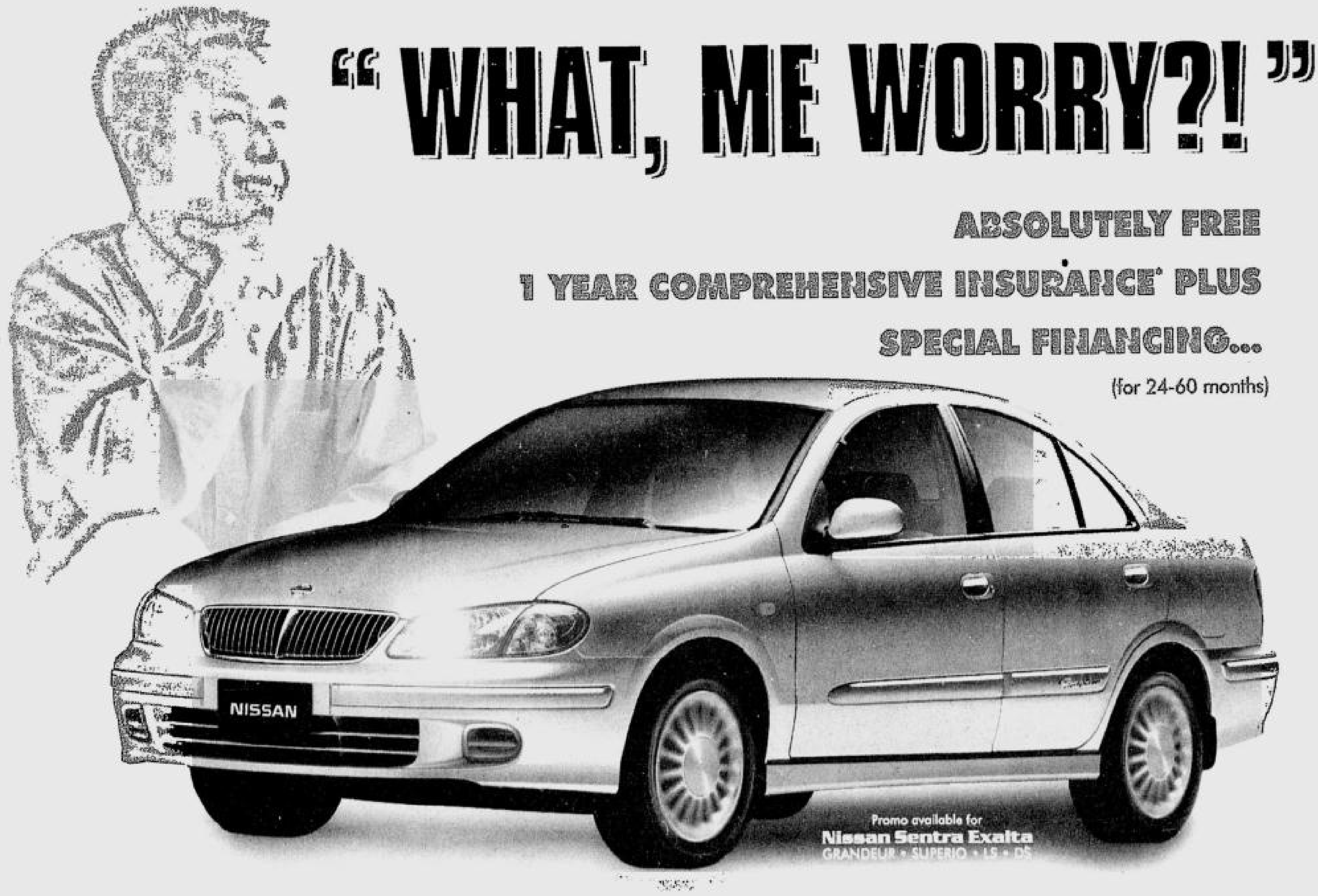
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3 AFP officers in Lamitan siege face ax

From page A1

cused by Fr. Cirilo Nacorda, parish priest of Lamitan and former Abu Sayyaf bandit, of allowing the bandits to leave the town.

The bandits stormed the hospital the previous evening, bringing with them the Filipino and American hostages they took from the Dos Palmas Resort in Palawan on May 27. The bandits seized from the resort 20 hostages, including three Americans—Martin and Gracia Burnham and Guillermo Sobero.

Of the three Americans, two died. The bandits beheaded Sobero on June 12, 2001 as a "gift" to President Macapagal-Arroyo, while Martin Burnham along with Filipina nurse Edibora Yap died on June 7 during a rescue operation by Filipino soldiers in Sirawai, Zamboanga del Norte.

Yap was among the four people the bandits seized from the Dr. Jose Torres Memorial hospital while they made their escape.

The committee report is still being circulated among members of the two Senate committees for approval. So far, Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr., chair of the Senate committee on national defense and security, and opposition Senators Aquilino Pimentel Jr. and Sergio Osmeña III have signed the report.

Sen. Francis Pangilinan, chair of the committee on justice and human rights, and Senators Robert Barbers, Juan Flavier and Rodolfo Biazon are expected to sign the report within the week.

"I may have some comments on the culpability of Campued because he was just following orders," Pangilinan said.

Strong evidence

The "briefs on the committee report," a copy of which was obtained by the INQUIRER, said there was "strong circumstantial evidence to support the allegation of collusion."

The two Senate committees conducted four public hearings, three executive sessions and two ocular inspections before arriving at their recommendations. Culled from these proceedings were more than 1,500 documents, including the testimonies of more than 50 witnesses, of whom 26 were Lamitan residents.

At the Senate hearing on Sept. 7, 2001, Lamitan resident Corazon Trota said that on the morning of June 2, she was in one of the rooms in the hospital with businessman Reghis Romero and Riza Santos when Sabaya came looking for the couple.

"Where are they? Reghis, Reghis! You can come out now!" Trota said she heard Sabaya shouting in Filipino. On seeing Romero, Sabaya told him that he could leave, according to Trota.

"Just tell (the authorities) that you escaped. And bring the child with you," Trota quoted Sabaya as saying, apparently referring to 9-year-old hostage RJ Recio.

Romero was reported to have paid the Abu Sayyaf millions of pesos so that the bandit group could free him and his purported girlfriend.

A "lull in firing" allowed Romero and two others to escape their Abu Sayyaf abductors, according to the report.

The committees found circumstantial evidence that a military briefing was called in the middle of the siege on Dr. Jose Ma. Torres Memorial Hospital and that the Abu Sayyaf was able to enter Lamitan even when it was on red alert and checkpoints were put up all over town.

It was irregular that there was "denial of a request for reinforcement/deployment by the higher authorities even if the pocket war was imminent and very real at that time," the report said.

Absence of leadership

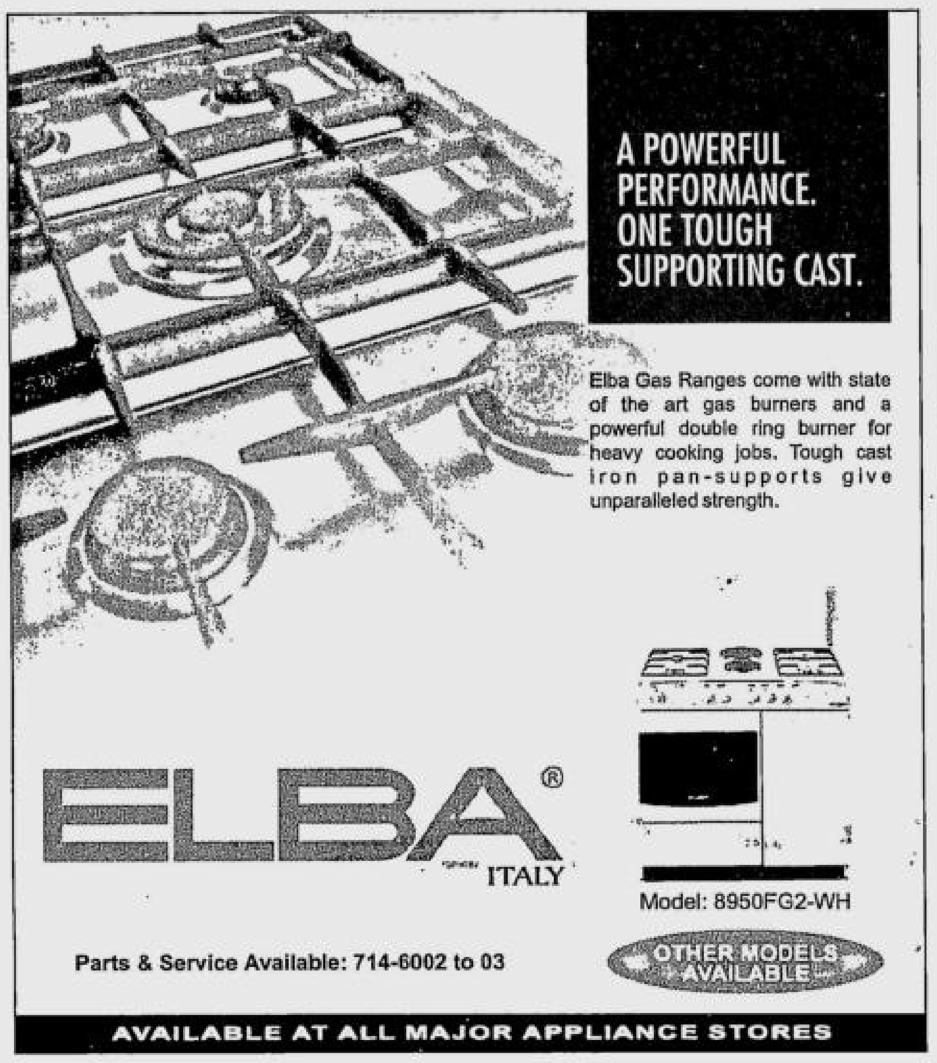
The report also noted "the absence of a true leader during the encounter."

The report cautioned the leadership of the Department of National Defense and Armed Forces of the Philippines "for admitting operational lapses which may qualify as criminal negligence without the necessary full-blown investigation."

It also recommended the filing and enactment of a Military Plunder bill, which seeks to guard against "the crime of colluding with lawless elements and bandits and similar groups and accepting anything with pecuniary value in exchange for perpetrating an illegal act."

Also recommended was the adoption of the law on Community Defense System, which seeks to "direct local government units to have their respective Community Defense Plan to address 'crisis' situations in their areas."

While the report recommended that the Department of Justice and the Office of the Ombudsman continue the investigation of the charge of collusion, it did not specify the people who should be charged.



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Sister Carmen Locsin, also known as Sister Remy, is a 62-year-old missionary who has been involved in looking after the welfare of Filipino migrants in Japan and uplifting the welfare and status of Filipino women in Tokyo. She started her missionary work as a volunteer at the Catholic Tokyo International Center (CTIC) in Japan in 1974 and worked at "Bahay ni Maria," which served as shelter for Filipina migrants. Sister Remy is presently working for the two CTIC offices in Kamaido and Meguro in Tokyo since workload and challenges now grow because of the increasing number of migrants in Japan.

Laureana "Ka Luring" Franco, a 66-year-old lay person, has spent her life teaching catechism to children in public schools, seminarians and lay people. She has also been serving as a community worker for the Church of the Poor Foundation of Msgr. Clem Ignacio and has done charitable acts where she used to solicit funding for the poor communities and individuals. She was also a recipient of the Pro Ecclesia Et Pontifice Award by Pope John Paul II and Missio Canonica '99 by Cardinal Sin.

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NGAP bares men's, women's golf lineup; quintet tuneup vs Taipei set

By Al S. Mendoza
Sports Editor

THE NATIONAL Golf Association of the Philippines beat the deadline yesterday and submitted to the Philippine Olympic Committee the final lineup of the men's and women's squads for the Busan Asian Games on Sept. 29-Oct. 14.

Reigning Philippine Open low amateur champion Angelo Que, Philippine Amateur titlist Jerome Delariarte, Kuala Lumpur SEA Games gold medalist Juvic Pagunsan and DHL-NGAP winner Marlon Dizon will gun for a sweep of the individual and team gold medals in Asiad men's play. Cookie La'O is the alternate.

The women's squad will be bannered by Heidi Chua, Carmelette Villaroman and Ria Quiazon. They have won titles both locally and internationally.

Team captain Benny Gopez, also the NGAP secretary general, has expressed high hopes of a "medal-winning performance from our bets."

Coach Roger Retuerto has been honing the teams to a barrage of rounds almost daily in a bid to fine-tune their swing in time for the golf competitions on Oct. 3-6.

Alice Andrada is the women's team captain.

The NGAP, headed by DHL top honcho Rod Feliciano, had requested the Philippine Sports Commission to send the teams to Busan to sample the Dye-designed course before Sept. 15.

Asiad competitors can only practice at the Busan venue from Aug. 15 to Sept. 15. After that, the course will be opened for practice two days before competition.

The "getting-to-know-you trip" to Busan was to replicate a similar sojourn by the country's golfers to Kuala Lumpur last year. Their early arrival for the Kuala Lumpur SEA Games produced a gold medal through Pagunsan.

"In golf, there's no substitute to course familiarity," said Gopez. "As everybody knows, that constitutes the biggest percentage in golf success."

The only time the country won a gold medal in the Asian Games was in 1986 in Seoul, through Ramon Brobio. Brobio, then 15, is now a professional.

Asian Games chief of mission Tom Carrasco said additional Filipino entries to the Asiad yesterday came from athletics (9), wrestling (4), equestrian (3), judo (3) and shooting (2).

Carrasco said the task force had reserved 11 slots for wushu.

PBA Commissioner Jun Bernardino said he would submit 12 names after the RP cagers' tuneup games against Chinese-Taipei on Aug. 20-22.

RP basketball coach Jong Uichico had earlier said he would name the Final 12 during the managers' meeting in Busan on Sept. 26.

Carrasco said 106 coaches, trainers, medical staff and administrative officers will join the athletes to Busan where the country will see action in 31 out of the 36 disciplines. ***With a report from June Navarro***

Phil: One last shot at major

By Doug Ferguson

CHASKA, Minnesota—Phil Mickelson can explain how to make the ball spin sideways when it lands on the green. He knows the depth chart of nearly every NFL team. He can fly a plane. He can tell you about black holes and constellations.

He has an answer for everything - except the question on everyone's mind.

Why haven't you won a major?

"I know how to fix it, and I'm trying to resolve that," Mickelson said.

There is only one solution.

His next chance to win - and last chance this year - starts today in the PGA Championship at Hazeltine National Golf Club, a course Mickelson knows better than most of his contemporaries.

Mickelson has been so good for so long that he qualified for the 1991 U.S. Open at Hazeltine as a 20-year-old amateur and tied for 55th.

"When I played here as an amateur, no one expected me to play well," he said.

They do now.

Mickelson is a special talent. He has 21 victories on the PGA Tour, which puts him in elite company - just not the kind he prefers. Only Harry "Lighthorse" Cooper (31) and MacDonald Smith (24) have won more times on tour without claiming a major championship.

And while Mickelson has never held the 54-hole lead in a major, he has finished ssecond or third in five of the last 14 majors, dating to his runner-up finish to Payne Stewart at the 1999 U.S. Open. **AP**

Manotoc paces Active golfest

TOMMY Manotoc, playing under ideal conditions contrary to his and other players' expectations the day before, shot a 73 yesterday to pace the Championship Class in the first Active Group Mid-Amateur Open.

Manotoc toured Mt. Malarayat's Lubo and Makulot courses just outside Lipa City with one birdie and 15 pars against two bogeys to take a one-stroke lead in the 54-hole event.

"This tournament is full of surprises," Manotoc told MMGC golf operations manager Jack Imperial after the round. "First there's no hustle driving over here. Second, Mt. Malarayat is just great."

Imperial told media that Manotoc and the other players had expected wet and muddy conditions because of the rains that caused lots of flood in many parts of the country on the eve of the championship.

"But Mt. Malarayat is an all-weather course so there was no such thing as wet condition," Imperial said. "As a matter of fact, we allowed them to use golf carts even in the fairways.

Antonio "Toti" Turalba Jr. opened the tournament by hitting the ceremonial ball.

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat

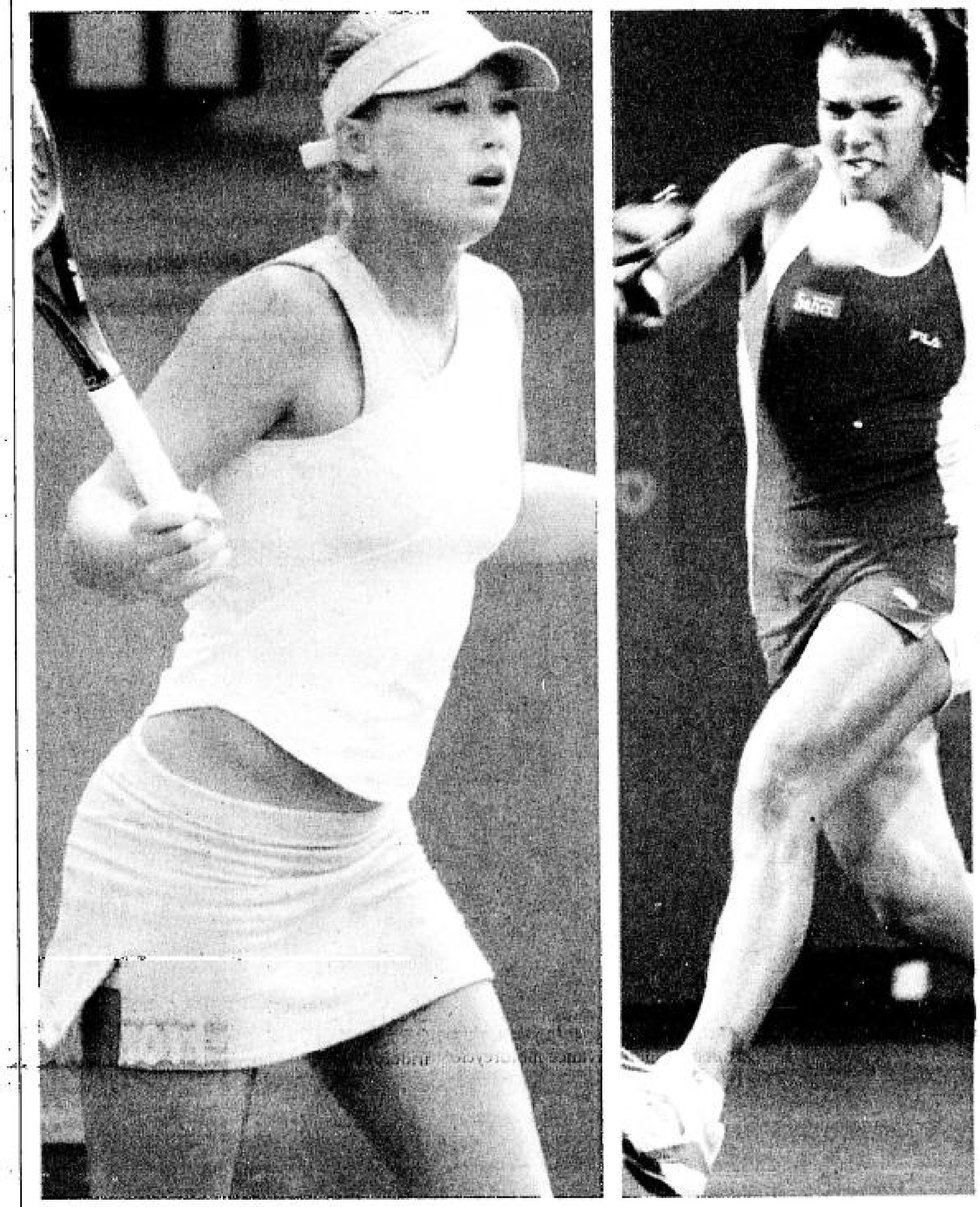
MOTOR SPORTS: 2002 F1 Hungarian Grand Prix Qualifying at 11 a.m. (r), Race Day at 7 p.m., Hungarian Grand Prix at 7:45 p.m., Chequered Flag at 10 p.m. on Star Sports

SOCCER: English Premier Football League at 8:30 a.m. on Star Sports and 11 a.m. (r), 1:30 p.m., 8:55 p.m. and 11 p.m. on ESPN

Premiership Extra at 10:30 a.m. (r – 6:30 p.m.) on Star Sports and 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. (r) on ESPN

Super Sunday Preview at 7:30 p.m. on ESPN

BASKETBALL: NBA Inside Stuff at 7:30 p.m. (r) on Star Sports



LOSER, WINNER

Russia's Anna Kournikova argues a call with the umpire during her match against Virgiania Ruano Pascual of Spain yesterday in the Canadian Open Tennis Championships in Montreal. Kournikova lost 7-5, 6-1. At right, Jennifer Capriati of the US returns a shot en route to routing compatriot Sarah Taylor in the same tournament. In Washington, defending champion Andy Roddick beat fellow American Justin Gimelstob, 6-2, 6-2, to reach the third round of the Legg Mason tilt. Marcelo Rios of Chile and Thomas Enqvist of Sweden also advanced. AP

Bata downs Dutch for semis slot

EFREN "Bata" Reyes defeated Niels Feijen of the Netherlands, 7-5, on Wednesday and advanced to the semifinals of the 2002 International Challenge of Champions in Connecticut, USA.

The win moved the Filipino sports idol two wins closer to the title and the $50,000 prize put up by Billiards International Ltd., promoter of the two-day, 9-ball event at Mohegan Sun Casino.

The field consists of a select cast of eight top-rated pool pros from Europe, the United States, Asia and Australia.

Reyes meets Shao Lung Fang of Chinese-Taipei, and Steve Knight of England plays against Mika Immonen of Finland in the semifinals on Thursday (Friday, Manila time). The finals will be held right after the semis.

This is Reyes' second tournament in the US pool circuit this month.

Last week, he placed fifth in the Peninsula 9-Ball Open in Virginia that Puyat Sports teammate Django Bustamante won.

adidas Streetball Challenge on tomorrow

STREET basketball action finally goes to the South as the adidas Streetball Challenge 2002 is held on Aug. 17-18 in Cebu City.

"At last, we are in the National Finals of this year's adidas Streetball Challenge. It has been an exciting three months of street basketball as the event went on the road to pick the best of the best, the finest streetball squads in the country. We thank Cebu City for playing host to this year's championships. To the finalists, our congratulations. You are already winners. And we do hope to see you again next year for the adidas Streetball Challenge 2003," said John Alonte, president and managing director of adidas Philippines.

Regional winners from the National Capital Region (NCR), Northern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will meet anew for the right to represent Team Philippines to the adidas Asian Streetball Finals 2002 on Aug. 29-Sept. 1 in Shanghai, China.

Gracing the event are two of the most exciting young players in the National Basketball Association today, the high-flying Antawn Jamison of the Golden State Warriors and streak shooting Mike Miller of the Orlando Magic.

Vying for the much-coveted Seniors crown are finalists University of Sto. Tomas (NCR), St. Louis University (Northern Luzon), University of Southern Philippines (Visayas), and Ateneo de Davao (Mindanao).

The adidas Streetball Challenge 2002 is also sponsored by Growee and WGA Zip in cooperation with Gatorade, Absolute pure distilled drinking water, Zed, Taylormade Golf, Salomon, Magic 89.9 dwTM and 99.5 RT.

Tigers survive Beermen

By June Navarro

RON Hale powered Coca-Cola to a come-from-behind 84-80 victory over San Miguel Beer last night as the Tigers forced a rubber match against the Beermen in the quarterfinals of the PBA Samsung Commissioner's Cup at the Philsports Arena.

Hale led the Tigers' shooting spree in the final quarter, erupting with 16 of his game high 37 points in that span as they turned back the Beermen.

The Beermen, who led three fourths of the way due to their torrid outside shooting, will try anew on Sunday against the Tigers in order to set up a semifinal duel with early semifinalist Batang Red Bull.

"That's the beauty of the sport. We almost died during the first three quarters because of San Miguel's outside shooting. But surprisingly in the fourth quarter our shots started to go in and that's how we won the game," said Coca Cola coach Chot Reyes, who is eyeing a third straight semifinal stint.

William Antonio drilled two triples that kept the Tigers ahead , 68-75, but it was Hale's 14-point outburst, including his back-to-back treys in the final three minutes, that lifted Coca-Cola.

Torray Braggs also shone as the 6-foot-8 banger battled the hulking Terquin Mott inside the paint all game long.

Braggs will leave for the United States tomorrow to treat a recurring strain in his hamstring. "Hopefully he'll be back in top form when we go into Sunday's decider," said Reyes.

Scores:

COCA-COLA 84—Hale 37, Braggs 27, Antonio 8, Abuda 6, Juinio 4, Morano 2, Abarrientos 0, Avenido 0.

SAN MIGUEL 80—Seals 23, Mott 18, Victoria 15, Peña 8, Mente 7, Gamboa 4, Gahol 3, Lago 2, Castro 0.

Quarters: 17-20, 39-40, 56-57, 84-80.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

TODAY in 1992, Jun Cordero shot a five-over-par 77 to snatch Class A honors in the 12th leg of the Johnnie Walker Tournament of Champions at Apo Golf club in Davao City. Also today in 1993, Butch Campos beat younger brother Tammy, 33-31, to cop the Class B crown in the Manila Southwoods Residential Estate and Golf and Country Club's Masters Cup in Carmona, Cavite.

RACING TIPS

At Santa Ana By Mr. 999

Race 1—1. Jackpot 2. Del Mar 3. Double Header 4. Rock's Dragon
Race 2—1. Renzokuken 2. Puppy Dog Tail 3. Woodside 4. Treasured Medal 5. Rama
Race 3—1. Bidang Bida 2. Always Florence 3. Chief Navigator 4. Deputy Royale
Race 4—1. St. Emilion 2. Juan Marco 3. Victory Lap 4. Boy from Brazil 5. Party Princess
Race 5—1. Naughty 2. Secret Quest
Race 6—1. Courage Heart 2. Green Leaves 3. Super Spoiled
Race 7—1. Front Page 2. Union City Boy 3. Sir Olizon 4. Aya's Star 5. Richie Rich
Race 8—1. Kitana 2. Noble House 3. Traktora 4. Mister Cool 5. Titan
Race 9—1. Bukambibig 2. High Typhoon 3. Aprey's Choice 4. Michael's Way 5. Ready Aim Fire 6. He's Splendid

PBA should treat retired cagers well—Jaworski

By Rocky Nazareno

"THERE should be life after basketball."

Thus said Sen. Robert Jaworski yesterday after watching a TV show that featured retired cagers now living a life of misery.

He said the show, Maki Pulido's I-Witness on Monday over GMA-7, melted his heart.

The Living Legend of Philippine basketball said he would ask the Philippine Basketball Association to include provisions for retirement, educational and financial benefits and other assistance packages in the league's uniform players' contract.

Jaworski said he would bat for the granting of said benefits after the player's retirement either because of old age or injury.

"The PBA owes its success and prestigious status to the dedicated players. As a gesture of complimenting their contributions, it should see to it that the present and future players will get something in return for their families once they decide to hang their jerseys," said Jaworski, a league pioneer.

He played for Toyota until the team's disbandment in 1983. He moved to Ginebra San Miguel as playing coach, remaining in that position even after he was elected senator in 1998.

Jaworski resigned in 1999 over a matter of principle when management took in Allan Caidic as his assistant coach without the senator's knowledge.

Jaworski watched Pulido report on the lives of former PBA players Teddy Alfarero and Alex Clariño. Both were Jaworski's teammates at Toyota.

Alfarero, now jobless, had worked as a tricycle and jeepney driver.

Clariño, bedridden, is battling rectal cancer.

Jaworski said the PBA "has the moral obligation to look after the welfare of the players at the end of their career because the league gained much from these cagers."

Jaworski also said he had earlier advocated for the establishment of a players compensation incentives program that will take care of the players' health, education and other benefits when he became founding president of the PBA Players Association.

But Jaworski said the program failed to take off because of the lack of support from the PBA.

"I agree that money is not the end-all in the PBA. But it is also the bread and butter of the players," he said. "If a player spent most of his productive life playing the game, then it would only be a fitting reward that he be assured that he would literally have bread and butter on his table even after he retires."

JAWORSKI

SPORTS

Editor **Al S. Mendoza** ● Assistant Editor **Edwin M. Villanueva**

Bird to present Magic

SPRINGFIELD, Massachusetts—They were fierce rivals on the court, beginning in their college days and continuing throughout their stellar NBA careers. Now, Larry Bird will present Earvin "Magic" Johnson for induction into the Basketball Hall of Fame at the Sept. 28 induction. The ceremony will kick off the opening of the new multimillion-dollar facility in Springfield. AP

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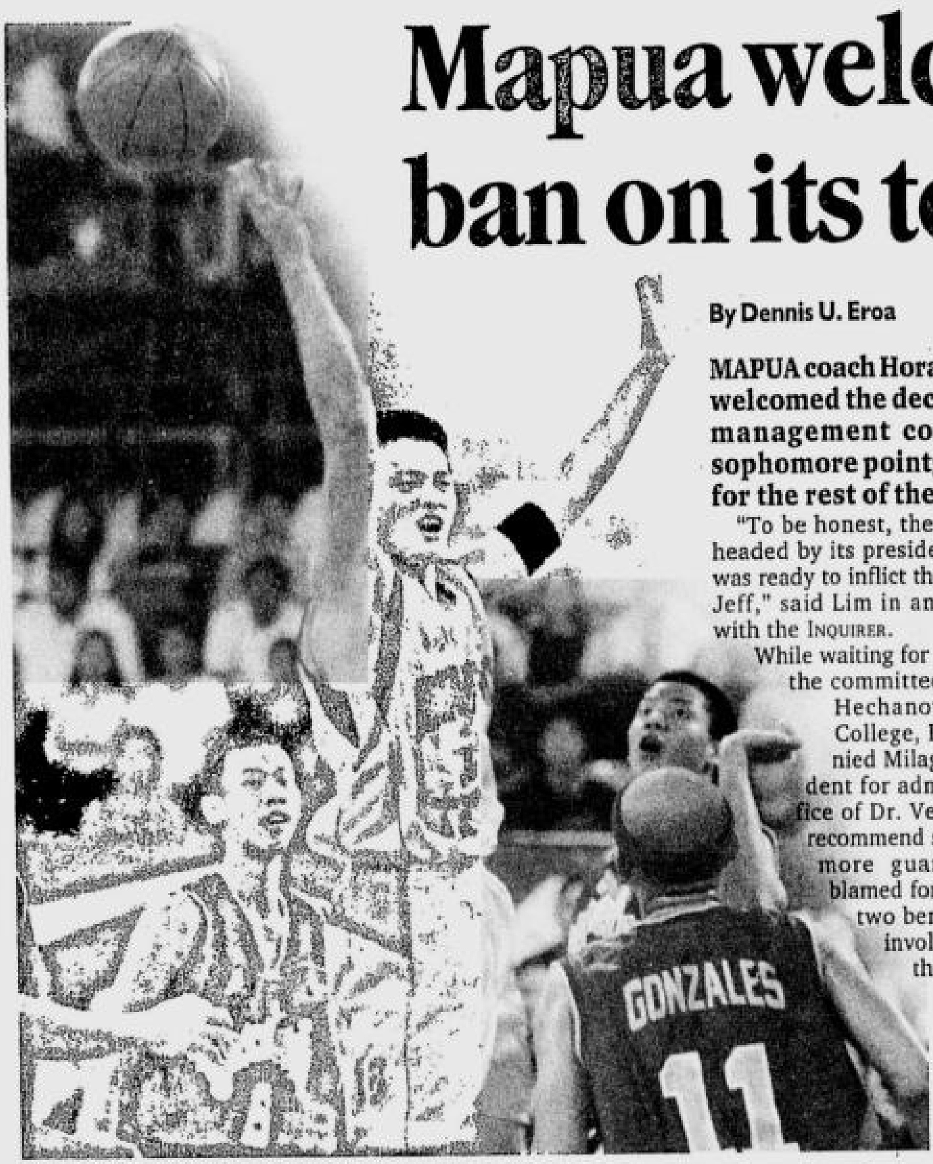
Mapua welcomes NCAA ban on its top playmaker



VETERAN Roberto Lagar of Mapua towers against San Sebastian College's Michael Gonzales, Rhed Vicente and Chris Baluyot during their recent encounter which the Stags won, 87-82. Sophomore Jeff Martin, the Cardinals' starting pointguard, was banned for the rest of the season due to his role in two bench-clearing incidents. ERNIE SARMIENTO/FILE PHOTO

By Dennis U. Eroa

MAPUA coach Horacio Lim yesterday welcomed the decision of the NCAA management committee to ban sophomore pointguard Jeff Martin for the rest of the season.

"To be honest, the school management headed by its president Dr. Reynaldo Vea was ready to inflict the same punishment to Jeff," said Lim in an exclusive interview with the INQUIRER.

While waiting for the official decision of the committee headed by Fr. Bede Hechanova of host San Beda College, Lim said he accompanied Milagros Reyes, vice-president for administration to the office of Dr. Vea, last Wednesday to recommend sanction on the sophomore guard, who was being blamed for his role in instigating two bench-clearing incidents involving the Cardinals and the St. Benilde Blazers.

"The management committee has the prerogative to give sanctions. Mapua accepts its decision. Mapua agrees that this event will also serve in educating our players to follow rules and regulations," said Lim.

Fr. Hechanova said the ban on Martin would serve as an example to other players who are vulnerable to committing similar acts.

"The league will not tolerate any form of hooliganism within its ranks. Let it serve as an example to other players," said Fr. Hechanova.

The 5-foot-8 Martin sparked a bench-emptying incident between the Cardinals and the Blazers on July 17 after deliberately hitting St. Benilde's Paolo Orbeta on the head. Martin was slapped a three-game suspension for that.

The former NCAA 2000 junior Mythical Five awardee was at it again last Monday when he stormed onto the court, igniting another near clash between both teams. He was in streetclothes due to a knee injury which doctors say will take five weeks to heal.

Lim, however, also rose to the defense of his ace guard. "Jeff is very emotional. He will always come to the defense of his teammates. He doesn't want his teammates to given a raw deal. Sometimes, he doesn't realized that his emotional outburst will have a bad effect to the whole team.

Formerly a coach of the bemedalled Mapua Red Robins, Lim expressed confidence that Martin will use the experience to change for the better.

"Jeff is young. I also have a role to play to help him see the wisdom of this experience. He is full of promise and he should come out of this better and more matured. He has enough time to change," Lim said.

Stags battle Altas; Cards face Bombers

By June Navarro

GAMES TODAY (Rizal Memorial Coliseum)
11:30 a.m.—UPHR vs SSC (jrs/srs)
4 p.m.—JRU vs Mapua (srs/jrs)

MAPUA faces Jose Rizal University sans playmaker Jeffrey Martin while San Sebastian College tackles University of Perpetual Help-Rizal today in the NCAA basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

In the 4 p.m. game, the Heavy Bombers take on the Cardinals who will be playing without the suspended Martin.

The league banned Martin for the rest of the season for instigating two bench-clearing incidents against the St. Benilde Blazers recently.

A victory for the Stags (6-2) would mean overtaking the PCU Dolphins (7-3) atop the standings and closing in on a Final Four berth, a reward College of St. Benilde (9-1) already earned after beating San Beda College on Wednesday.

Buoyed by their great escape against the Mapua Cardinals, 87-82, the Stags foresee an impending triumph against the Altas, who lost their seventh consecutive game against the Dolphins, 72-70, on Monday.

While the Stags are expected to take things lightly, the Jose Rizal University Heavy Bombers are priming up for a thorny battle in the other varsity match.

Coach Boy De Vera's Heavy Bombers will tackle the victory-hungry Cardinals, who lost via forfeiture, 20-0, against the Blazers. The Cardinals put the game under protest.

Seeking to reverse their misfortunes, the Cardinals (3-6) need to win all of their assignments in order to forge at least a playoff in the Final Four.

Jao dominates Super Bike tilt

ROSARIO, Batangas—Five-time champion Jolet Jao of Shell Advance-Rolex Engineering is dominating this year's Shell Advance Super Bike Championships again.

Jao pulled away in the overall standings and moved on the verge of winning his sixth title since 1996 after posting back-to-back victories in the seventh and eighth rounds in one-sided fashions.

"I'm really determined to win it again," said Jao, who also won the title in 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000 and 2001.

So unstoppable was Jao that most of his closest rivals appear ready to concede even with still four rounds left in the annual series organized by the Batangas Racing Circuit and sanctioned by the National Motorcycle Sports and Safety Association (Namssa).

The 37-year-old Jao, who is being supported by Shell Advance Motorcycle Oils and Rolex Engineering, is now way ahead in the overall standings with an eight-leg aggregate of 190 points based on the 25-20-17-13-11 scoring system.

Jao's main opponent, Toti Alberto, is too far behind in second place with 165 points.

Rod Scott is third with 148 points, Rey Relativo is fourth with 108 points and Jeff Andres is fifth with 104 points.

Jao clocked 31 minutes and 31.337 seconds in the seventh round, or 6.112 seconds ahead of Alberto and 6.628 seconds ahead of Scott in the 3.0-kilometer racetrack.

The Marikina-based campaigner later improved his time to 29:03.072 against Alberto's 29:23.011 and Andres' 29:25.101 in the eighth round.

He also submitted the fastest lap time for the day of 1:42.319 in the fourth lap of the morning race.

"*Malaking tulong talaga sa akin ngayon ang* Shell Advance motorcycle oils. *Mas naging mabilis, mas mahusay ang takbo ko*," explained Jao, who is being backed up by technical adviser Gregorio "Yoyong" Buncio and chief mechanic Stephen Acdul and Ronel Lumunsad.

Round 7—1. J. Jao 31:31.337; 2. T. Alberto 31:37.449; 3. R. Scott 31:37.965; 4. J. Andres 32:14.872; 5. W. del Rosario 33:00.692.

Round 8—1. J. Jao 29:03.072; 2. T. Alberto 29:23.011; 3. J. Andres 29:25.101; 4. W. del Rosario 29:55.748; 5. R. Ortiz 30:01.692.

'Fastest Win' derby unfolds tonight

AFTER the smashing success of the PCC Anniversary Derby last month (154 entries), Pasay City Cockpit presents another blockbuster cockfest at 7 tonight via the "Fastest Win 3-Cock Derby" featuring 58 fights.

Winners stand to get P150,000 in prizes. The country's sabong idol Patrick Antonio and movie star Pyar Mirasol will award P10,000 and trophy to the fastest win awardee.

Likewise, every participant will get P2,000 first bet certificate from CF-Parañaque, three T-shirts, Sagupaan products, one case of San Miguel beer and pulutan, T-shirts and products will also be given to afficionados.

Hosting the event is the Group of 12 foundation. Entry fee is P3,300.

"This derby is one of the most awaited events here at Pasay Cockpit. It only proves that there is no such thing as moulting season *dito sa sabungan namin*," said pit managers Oscar Gonzales, Eric dela Rosa and Butchoy Olano.

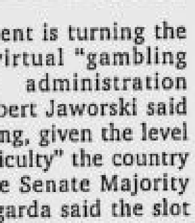
Pasay City Cockpit, boasting of more than 200 cockhouses, in-house restaurants, music lounge for participants, OTB for horserace buffs, big parking area and comfort rooms similar to that of a five-star hotel, is now regarded as the busiest cockfighting center in Metro Manila.

For other inquiries, please contact 843-1890, 843-1746 and 816-6750.

The real winner

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo



THE REAL winner of the President's decision to scrap the plan of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. to operate 2,000 slot machines around the country is not the opposition, but the Filipino people, the youth in particular.

In scrapping the plan, President Macapagal-Arroyo said the project was legal but morally unsound, adding that the project would make slot machines accessible to the lower and middle classes as well as students. "This project is scrapped. If they (Pagcor) have to raise money, they should engage in high-end projects that cater to the rich and famous."

The government initially defended the Pagcor project by saying that the state-run agency was acting within its congressional franchise. But it aborted its position amid mounting protests from various sectors of society, including members of the influential Catholic church and administration and opposition lawmakers.

The political opposition led by Sen. Edgardo Angara earlier lambasted the Macapagal administration for allowing the operation of slot machines outside the Pagcor-run casinos, saying this government is turning the country into a virtual "gambling republic." New administration member Sen. Robert Jaworski said the plan was wrong, given the level of "economic difficulty" the country was facing, while Senate Majority Leader Loren Legarda said the slot machines, also called "one-armed bandits," would only drain the pockets of the youth.

Former PSC chair and Manila Mayor Mel Lopez also expressed his opposition to the Pagcor plan, stressing that playing the slot machines would only further encourage gambling among Filipinos. "Gambling is senseless because it destroys the lives of people. "There is nothing to learn from it."

The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines is also against the Pagcor slot machine project and, for that matter, against any form of gambling, saying that gambling is something people should not do. "The people should realize the value of hard work and know that gambling is not the way to earn money. God does not approve of that."

Some months back, President Macapagal cancelled Pagcor's plan to operate the jai alai. "I think this is already two strikes for Pagcor where I have overruled its decision. I am not saying that its decision is illegal. I am just saying the jai alai and the slot machine (projects) do not measure up to the moral standards that we have set for governance."

* * *

GO HOME, PBA HOTHEADS! It's good to know the temperamental Art Long of San Miguel Beer had been sent home and replaced by balik-import Terquin Mott entering the crucial stages of the PBA Commissioner's Cup. Good riddance. And while on the subject of imports, PBA Commissioner Jun Bernardino should put more teeth in dealing with these hotheaded imports instead of treating them lightly. The PBA should send the message that unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated by the fast-sinking league because it is something the public wouldn't want to see.

Osaka trounces Surigao

CANTILAN, Surigao City—Osaka Iridology-M. Lhuillier blasted Surigao City, 99-70, to move a win away from nailing the Cebu Basketball League (CBL) Cantilan Fiesta Challenge Cup.

Skipper Junnel Maglasang and Bong Sumaquin both scored 20 points in leading Osaka to its third straight win in this tournament supported by the local government of Cantilan town led by mayor Thomasa Guardo.

The high-leaping Maglasang shot a perfect 8-of-8 and converted four from the charity line, most of them midway in the fourth quarter where Osaka built its biggest lead at 95-60.

Osaka met stiff resistance from the Surigao dribblers early on and was ahead by only a single basket after the first quarter, 20-18.

Chess classes on tap

A SECOND batch of enrollees for the fifth series of Milo Checkmate Saturday clinic will still be accepted until Aug. 24 at the following venues, namely, St. Benedict College (SBC) in Alabang Hills, Muntinlupa City; Rizal Memorial Sports Complex (RSMC), Vito Cruz, Manila and Greenhills, San Juan.

The clinic will start its formal chess lectures tomorrow. Aug. 17, at the given respective schedules: 7:30-11:30 a.m.—SBC's HS student lounge; 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at RMSC—Badminton Bldg., and 2:30-6:30 p.m. at a new venue in Greenhills to be announced later.

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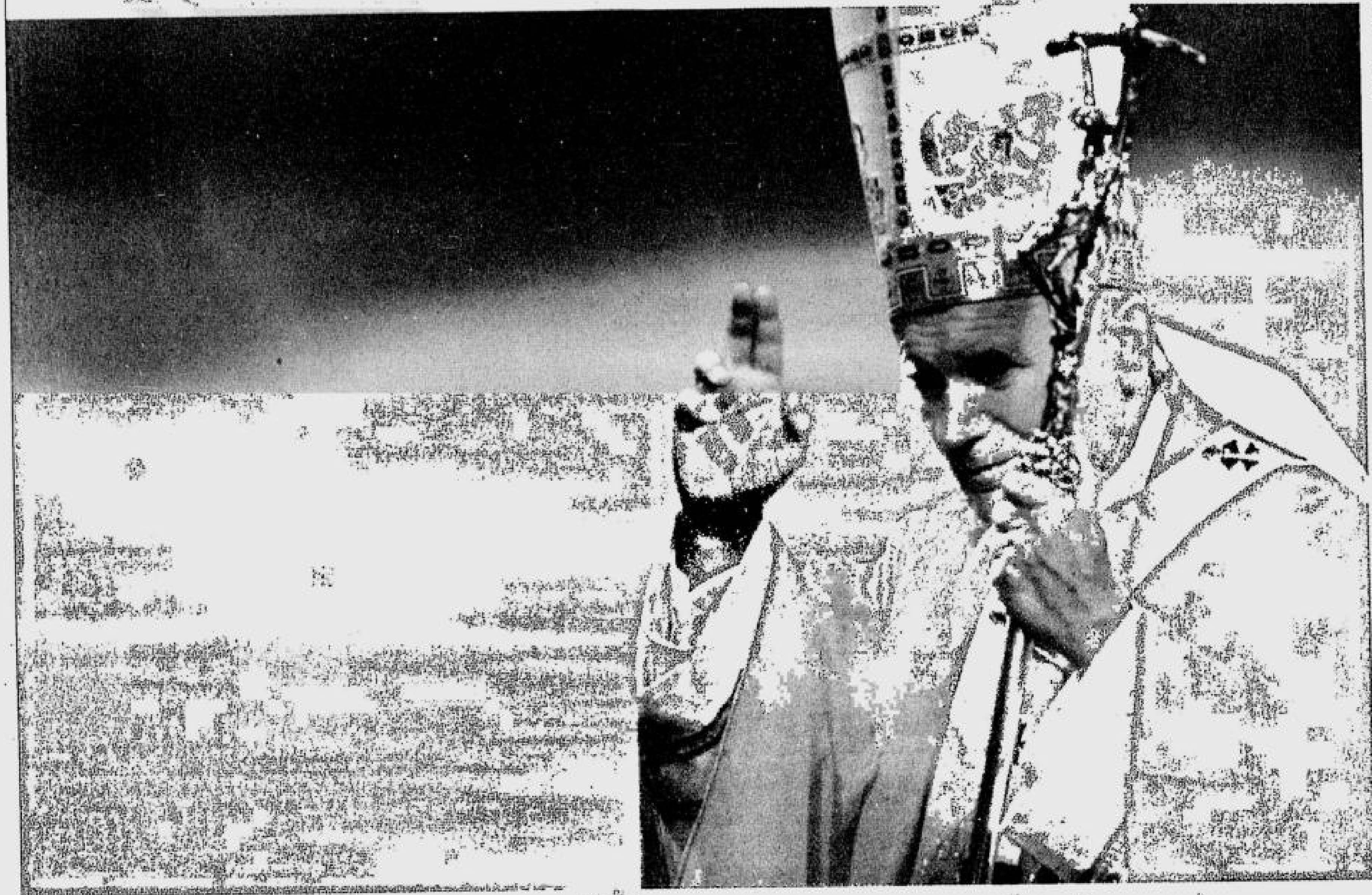
Simply A Family Affair



SMART proudly joins the entire nation in bringing together all families for one grand reunion - the 4th World Meeting of Families in Manila, January 23 to 26, 2003.

Be part of this important event when the world celebrates ideal family values.

And to highlight the celebration, let us be there to welcome His Holiness, Pope John Paul II.

But, this early, SMART offers you the opportunity to help in the event's preparations through two text-based services.

"Share Your Light"

By lighting a virtual candle through your SMART celfone, you help in generating funds for the event. And as we aim to light four million virtual candles, the subscriber who lights the 4,000,000th virtual candle, together with 3 family members, will be given an all-expense paid trip to the Vatican. Key in CANDLE and send to 700.

Each virtual candle lit is charged P10.00.
Part of the proceeds will be donated to the preparations for the 4th World Meeting of Families.

"Get To Know Your Pope"

Get to know interesting facts about the Holy Father. Every download you make contributes to the preparation funds for the event, and gives you a chance to receive a SMART Nokia 7650 as well as a trip for four to the Vatican. Key in LOLEK and send to 700.

Each trivia download is charged P2.50.
Part of the proceeds will be donated to the preparations for the 4th World Meeting of Families.

THE 4th WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

Manila, Philippines
January 23-26, 2003

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SMART Proudly Supports The 2003 World Meeting of Families In Manila

This early, 2003 is shaping up to be a year of historical proportions for the Philippines. Because come January, the country will be proudly hosting the 4th World Meeting of Families in Manila.

Inaugurated in Rome, Italy in 1994, the World Meeting of Families brings together families from different nations and cultures. It serves as a forum to discuss various topics pertaining to family life and what answers the Roman Catholic Church can offer on these issues.

Every celebration is organized under a particular theme. The inaugural had the theme *"The Family: Heart of the Civilization of Love."* In 1997 at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the theme was *"Family: Gift and Commitment, Hope for Humanity."* The millennium celebration, again held in Rome, revolved on the theme *"Children: Springtime of the Family and Society."* Next year's celebration will have the theme *"The Christian Family: Good News for the Third Millennium."*

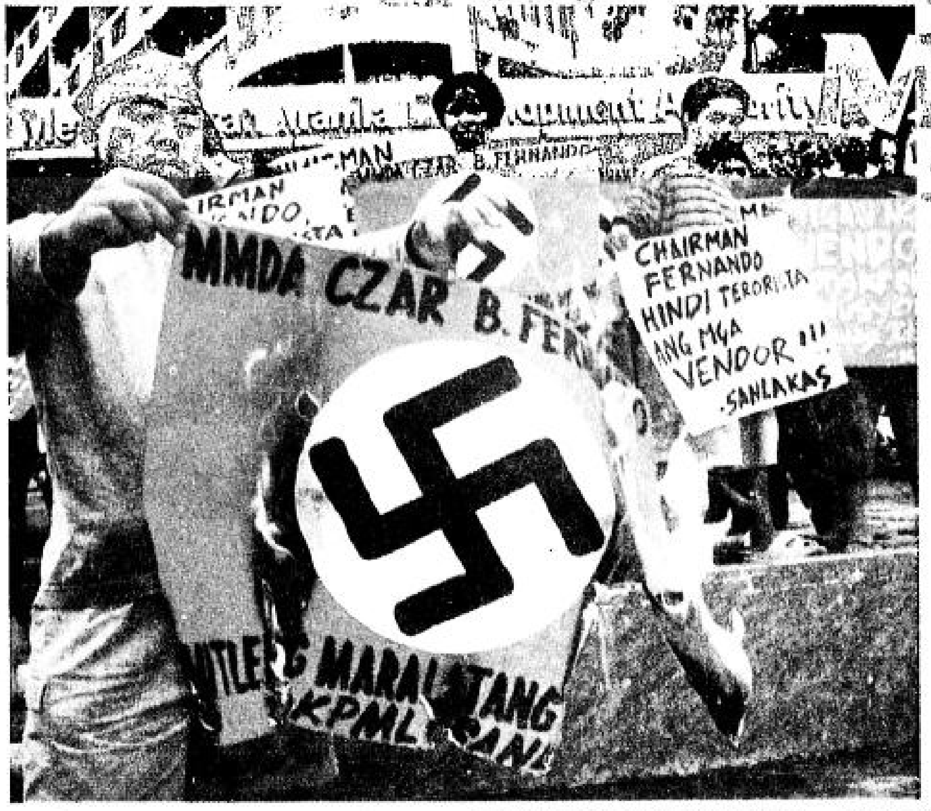
A part of the World Meeting of Families is the International Pastoral and Theological Congress. It is a gathering of bishops, priests, religious, and lay people, with the purpose of preparing the families for their actual meeting with the Pope – the highlight of the celebrations.

In line with all these, SMART Communications gives its support to this event as a major sponsor. Because SMART believes that any event that lends empowerment to society – with the family being its most basic unit – is surely worth supporting. SMART encourages everyone to prepare for and participate in the activities of the 4th World Meting of Families, which shall be graced by Pope John Paul II Himself.

For more information, you may get in touch with your local parish.

METRO

Editor **Louie C. Camino**


MMDA CZAR B. FERNANDO
CHAIRMAN FERNANDO HINDI TERORISTA ANG MGA VENDOR!!! SANLAKAS
HITLER NG MARALITANG
KPML

"HITLER" is how members of groups of urban poor and sidewalk vendors call Metro Manila Development Authority Chair Bayani Fernando who has waged a war on sidewalk obstructions.

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ACTIVITY CENTER, LGF
SM City BACOOR

Fernando 'ruthless,' say urban poor

By Christian V. Esguerra

VENDORS and urban poor groups yesterday threatened to camp out right in the compound of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority to keep MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando from "ruthlessly" demolishing sidewalk stalls and shanties.

"Each time he demolishes a structure, we would troop to the MMDA to sell our goods there," vendor Jess Panis, president of the Kongreso ng Pagkakaisa ng mga Maralita ng

FERNANDO/ p. A26

Widow faces charges for explosion

By Alcuin Papa

CALOOCAN policemen are readying criminal charges against the widow of a dynamite manufacturer who died in an explosion in Caloocan City Wednesday afternoon.

According to Supt. Benjardi Mantele, Caloocan police chief, charges of reckless imprudence resulting in homicide, multiple serious physical injuries, damage to property and illegal possession and manufacture of explosives will be filed against Oliva Torrechiva, 42.

Oliva is the widow of Domingo Torrechiva, one of four people who died in Wednesday's explosion.

Investigators said Domingo, a fish dealer, had been manufacturing and selling dynamite to fishermen in the area. Police believed that dynamite stored in the Torrechiva residence in Bagong Silang caused the explosion, which damaged 13 other houses.

Domingo, his brother-in-law Ricardo Cabelin, 25, and two other women who have yet to be identified, died in the explosion, police said.

Reported injured were Oliva's year-old son Zyruz, Ruel Catapang, 27, his wife Jocelyn, 26, Susan Mirabel, 36, and four others. The injured are being treated at the East Avenue Medical Center, police said.

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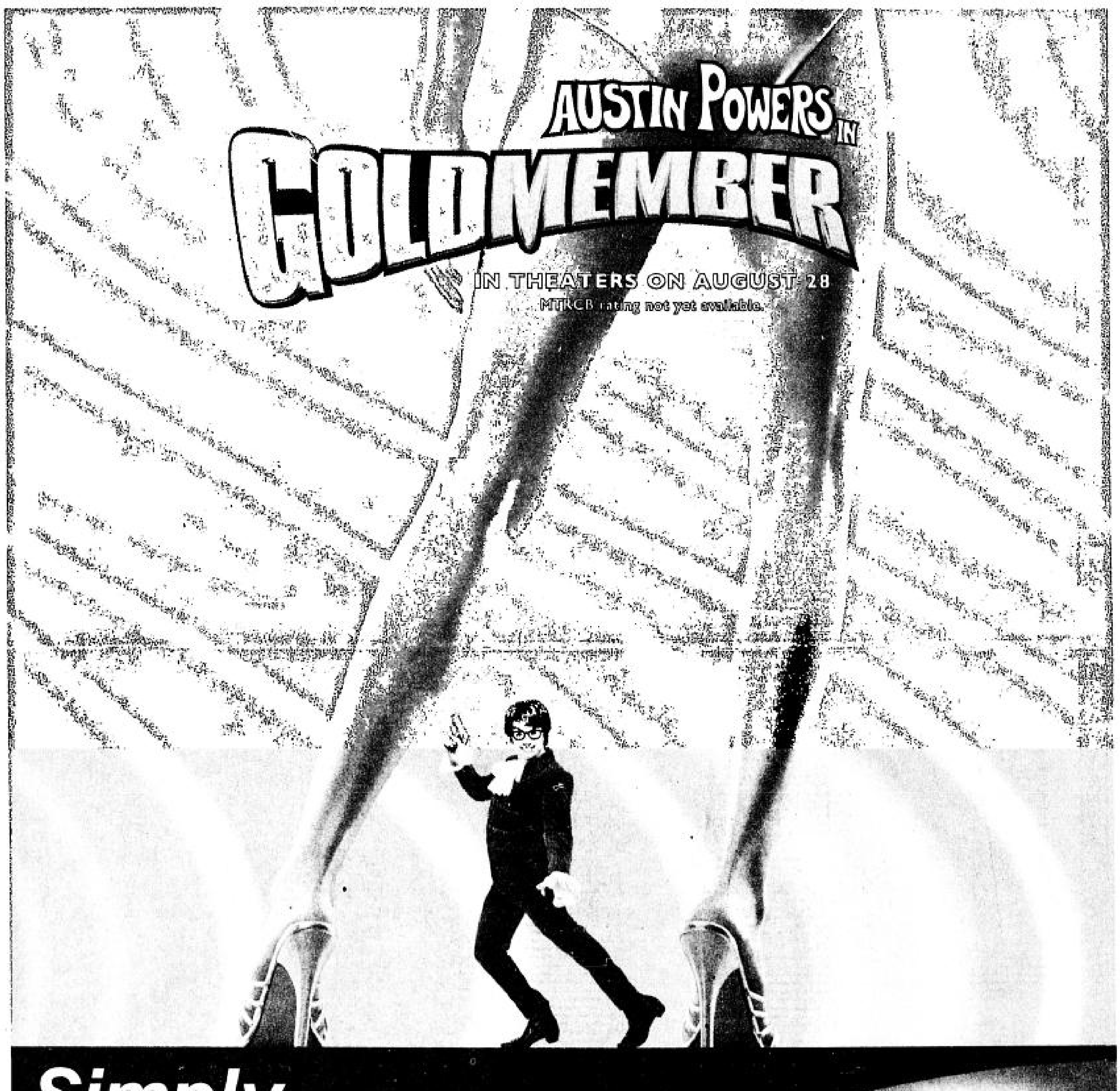

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Thanks to GMA, the Pinoy missed going first-class

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo should congratulate herself. Not necessarily for the sensational zoom in her approval rating. But for having scored a winning point for the gullible, hungry *masa*.

OK, Malacañang has been claiming the President again looks wholesome to many Filipinos.

The photo-ops must have paid off handsomely.

Factors mentioned behind the approval included the defeat of the Abu Sayyaf and reduction of power rates.

Well, Mindanao rebels have remained a constant problem and threat.

The rate of fuel can again soar and go berserk any moment.

But after she decided to junk the abominable plan by the Pagcor to flood the country with one-armed bandits (generic name: slot machines), the President effectively pulled the harried daily wage-earner from the losing end of an indefinite gaming mismatch in our chaotic city streets.

***

It could be plain coincidence that she thumbed down the well-planned Pagcor slot machine attack on the day her improved rating was announced.

Out here at the Inquirer, there were actually two reasons to celebrate on Wednesday.

One: The justice department dropped Senator Ping Lacson's dripping libel case against the paper.

Two: The junking of the slot machines was undoubtedly a result of a detailed Inquirer exposé, which was subsequently picked up by concerned groups like the opposition and the Catholic Church, this time led again by the gallant Archbishop Oscar Cruz of Dagupan.

Modesty aside, the Inquirer, just like the President, should also be congratulating itself.

In the end, GMA was at center stage to state that what's morally upright, not what's merely legal, should be upheld for the general good.

Yes, she had threatened to take the title of Top Gambling Lord from her predecessor.

Fortunately for the poor Pinoy, GMA finished the play standing tall, sounding very heroic.

***

Still, the questions lingered.

1) Did GMA first give Pagcor authority to implement the slot machine plan, then recalled it at the last minute after feeling the public outcry?

2) Wasn't she originally aware that the jackpot machine is not an ordinary video entertainment game but actually a trickier, more evil version of the video *karera* games which Manila Mayor Lito Atienza loves to burn in public?

3) Would we have one morning awakened to find these machines all over the place had not some concerned sectors, like media and the Church, put up a strong resistance?

As the chief public relations man at Pagcor would bare, it was all a "business decision."

The sales genius also explained that Pagcor was "a global corporation with a global mindset and a Filipino heart."

There's no reason to doubt that the slot machines could have put the poor Pinoy at par with the world's best, as far as gambling and gaming are concerned.

***

In a way, the Pinoy also missed out on something novel with the President's decision to scrap the slot machine deal.

It's like this. While the government allows the Philippines to be a dumping ground through rampant flooding of our market with used, rundown, second-hand cars mainly from Korea and Japan, it would have been entirely different with the slot machines.

The hold-up machines Pagcor had set against the poor public were brand-new, state-of-the-art.

Going first-class for once. This is one angle Pagcor sales geniuses had missed out on.

Of course, it would also do her image a lot of good if the President succeeded in unmasking the big people behind the sickening importation of used cars into the country.

Listen: There are loud whispers saying these bold importers are merely fronting for somebody big, exclusively close, Your Excellency.

SERENITY BY THE SEA
Manila residents used to the dark and dank and dirty breakwater of the Manila Bay along Roxas Boulevard are in for a stunner. The area is now an inviting promenade, complete with new benches, lights and tiles. Antonio Arcilla, 73, of nearby Maria Orosa Street, says he used to be afraid of the area when it got dark.

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Parsons wants NBI to probe assault

By Nelson F. Flores

ACTOR Sonny Parsons yesterday asked the National Bureau of Investigation to take over the investigation of his killing of alleged robbers Rodgin Baguinat and Joemar Mercado and the serious wounding of Joram Gaceta.

The suspects barged into Parsons' Marikina City house last month and robbed him of P133,000 cash and personal belongings.

Parsons, Jose Nabiola in real life, said Marikina police was inept in handling the case. He claimed the policemen were using "kid gloves" in their investigation.

He said the police could be ineffective because of pressure from "powers that be."

He noted that Supt. Cripriano Querol, former Marikina City police chief, filed the lighter and bailable offense of robbery in bond charges against Joram Gaceta when he should have filed the graver and non-bailable offense of illegal possession of firearms, violation of the Commission on Elections gun ban and attempted homicide against him.

Doctors at the Amang Rodriguez Medical Center who treated Gaceta for gunshot wounds reportedly found an unlicensed gun on him.

Parsons had said it was the same gun Gaceta had poked at his head and which had jammed. He managed to chase the men and engage them in a shootout, shooting one dead and wounding Gacete.

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PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 1403 SERIES OF 2002

Fire hits Manila Hotel despite rain

By Philip C. Tubeza

DESPITE the stormy weather, a one-hour fire hit the Manila Hotel before dawn yesterday.

No one was reported hurt, but the fire left an estimated P200,000 in damages, investigators said.

The fire broke out and was contained in the engineering department stockroom, said SFO3 Ruben Sagado of the Manila fire department.

The hotel guests did not panic since the stock room is located at the back of the hotel, Sagado said.

The fire started at 4:44 a.m. and was put under control at 5:38 a.m.

He said arson investigators were still trying to determine the cause of the blaze.

Motherhood expo

MENCHIE Abalos, wife of Mandaluyong City Mayor Benhur Abalos Jr., together with Travel Girl Philippines 2002 Grace Coloso and movie-TV personality Melissa de Leon, will cut the ceremonial ribbon at the opening of the first international exhibition and seminar on women, mothers and children's needs, ``Motherhood and Woman Expo," at 10 a.m. today at the Megatrade hall at the Megamall.

The three-day Motherhood and Woman Expo features fashion trends, makeover, women's wellness, safe motherhood and parenting tips, travel and tours packages.

The exhibit is open to the public, until 7 p.m. from today to Sunday.

Fernando . . .

From p. A25

Lungsod (KPML), told the Inquirer.

Members of the 10,000-strong KPML yesterday picketed the MMDA office in Makati to denounce what they called Fernando's "acts of terrorism" against the urban poor.

The group burned an image of a swastika which supposedly symbolized Fernando's implementation of "Hitler-like" policies to clear Metro Manila's sidewalks of all obstructions.

"We are not terrorists so the government should never treat us with force," Panis said. "We just want to earn a decent living."

The group also slammed Fernando's "inhumane" approaches to keep vendors off the streets.

Allan Gayoso, 27, vice president of the Kalentong-Mandaluyong Vendors Association, claimed that MMDA officers and local government representatives had arrested and jailed several vendors in Kalentong as part of Fernando's clearing drive.

Early this week, the MMDA destroyed stalls and sprinkled gas on vegetables, fruits, and other goods to drive away vendors in Paco, Manila, according to Panis.

"We're not against Fernado's campaign to rid Metro Manila of obstructions," he said. "We just want to have due process. He should talk to us first before he demolishes our stalls and houses."

Panis proposed for the MMDA to build a market in each city and municipality where vendors can be relocated.

Cop's beating victim appeals Napolcom ruling

By Leila Salaverria

VICTOR Ocampo, 66, who was beaten up by a policeman eight years ago, has appealed to Interior and Local Governments Secretary Joey Lina to do something about the National Police Commission's decision to suspend the erring cop instead of dismissing him from service.

In a July 9 letter to Lina, who is also Napolcom chair, Ocampo warned that the "abusive" cop could harm other people again after the original punishment meted out to Supt. Mario Cruz was downgraded from outright dismissal to a 90-day suspension.

In downgrading the dismissal order of the People's Law Enforcement Board, Napolcom officials decided that Cruz only inflicted slight physical injuries on the victim, an offense punishable by one to 30 days, according to the Penal Code.

Ocampo said the Napolcom decision "will allow Cruz to go back to the streets, and dishonor and desecrate the uniform."

He also said in an interview that he is not Cruz's sole victim because the police officer had several other cases pending with various regional trial courts.

Documents showed that Cruz had beaten up Ocampo in 1994. Ocampo, an epileptic, was crossing the street when Cruz's car sideswiped him, causing him to lose his balance and drop the bag of fruits he was carrying. Cruz then got down from the car approached Ocampo, who was picking up the fruits, and punched and dragged the victim on the street, in full view of pedestrians.

Cruz had denied Ocampo's statements and had said it was the latter who was being arrogant at the time.

Ocampo described the Napolcom decision as "highly questionable" because he and his counsel were not told that Cruz went to Napolcom to the PLEB decision. Ocampo said he only learned of the appeal when he received the Napolcom decision on July 2 this year.

In an interview, Ocampo raised fears that Cruz might be exerting his influence to get off the hook. He said Cruz is the son of Gen. Rene Cruz, former member of the Philippine Olympic Committee.

In a July 12 memorandum, Lina had ordered the Napolcom to "take appropriate action" on Ocampo's appeal and to inform the latter of any developments regarding his case.

METROBRIEFS

Epileptic drowns

FEDELINO FRANCISCO, 28, drowned on Wednesday afternoon in a creek in Marikina City after apparently suffering an epilepsy attack, police said. Francisco's body was fished out of the Marikina-San Mateo River in Sitio San Miguel, Barangay Parang. Francisco drowned between 12 noon and 2 p.m. of Wednesday, said SP03 Ben Mabalot of Marikina City police. He said Francisco was apparently swimming when he had an epilepsy attack. *Nelson F. Flores*

Doc shoots 'amok'

DR. Rizalino Pelarca, 51, was detained at Baler police station after he shot and seriously wounded Constancio Danuco, 34, who went amok and hurled a rock at his white Nissan California, shattering its windshield. Police said Pelarca was with his wife on board the car when they pulled up to a Shell gasoline station on West Avenue at 10:45 a.m. They chanced upon Danuco who was holding a rock, which he threw at the car. Danuco ran away, but came back a few minutes later. Pelarca then pulled out his .45 pistol and fired twice at Danuco, hitting him once in the chest. Some witnesses said Pelarca had not fired a warning shot before he aimed at Danuco. *Alcuin Papa*

Truck rams van

TWO-MONTH-OLD Rea Mae Ayag was killed and several women vendors were injured when a dump truck rammed into the van in which they were riding at the corner or Regalado and Commonwealth avenues in Barangay North Fairview, Quezon City on Wednesday. Police identified the injured as Emelita Ayag, 42, the baby's mother; Virginia Adorna, 53; Gloria Gomez, 50; Julieta Barcellano, 49; Arlene de la Cruz, 21; all vendors from San Jose del Monte in Bulacan. Police said the van was traveling along Commonwealth toward Quirino Highway when the Isuzu dump truck that Benedicto David, 40, was driving rammed it. Police detained David who faces charges of reckless imprudence resulting in homicide, multiple physical injuries and damage to property. *Alcuin Papa*

Pushed, boy drowns

JOHN CHRISTOPHER Canulo, 16, drowned in a creek in Antipolo after his friend Pedrito Caabay accidentally pushed him on Tuesday night. Police said Canulo's body was fished out of the Ferret Ville Creek at 12:30 a.m. yesterday. Canulo was still clutching a PVC pipe when his body was found. Police said Canulo and Caabay were wading in the flood waters and waiting to push vehicles that would stall in the flood. The friends were playing in the flood when Caabay suddenly pushed Canulo, causing him to fall into the creek. Caabay is now in police custody and would be charged with reckless imprudence resulting in homicide. *Nelson F. Flores*

Dad seeks probe of Manila City Hall fake receipts

By Jerome Aning

A MANILA councilor has demanded the creation of a special body to investigate the "widespread use" of fake receipts in City Hall.

Third district councilor Jhosep Lopez said some city hall employees are conniving with syndicates to manufacture the bogus receipts, especially those pertaining to tax payments.

"The city government is losing hundreds of millions of pesos a year which could have been used to finance big projects for the improvement of the city," Lopez said.

He said the latest incident involved a P1-million receipt for the payment of property tax of a building in Binondo, Manila. The receipt turned out to be fake and no actual payment was made to the city government.

Unless the "well-entrenched" syndicates are exposed and put behind bars, Lopez said, City Hall would continue to lose revenues.

The committee–composed of councilors–may seek the assistance of other investigation agencies to go after the syndicate and recommend the filing of appropriate cases against persons involved in the anomaly.

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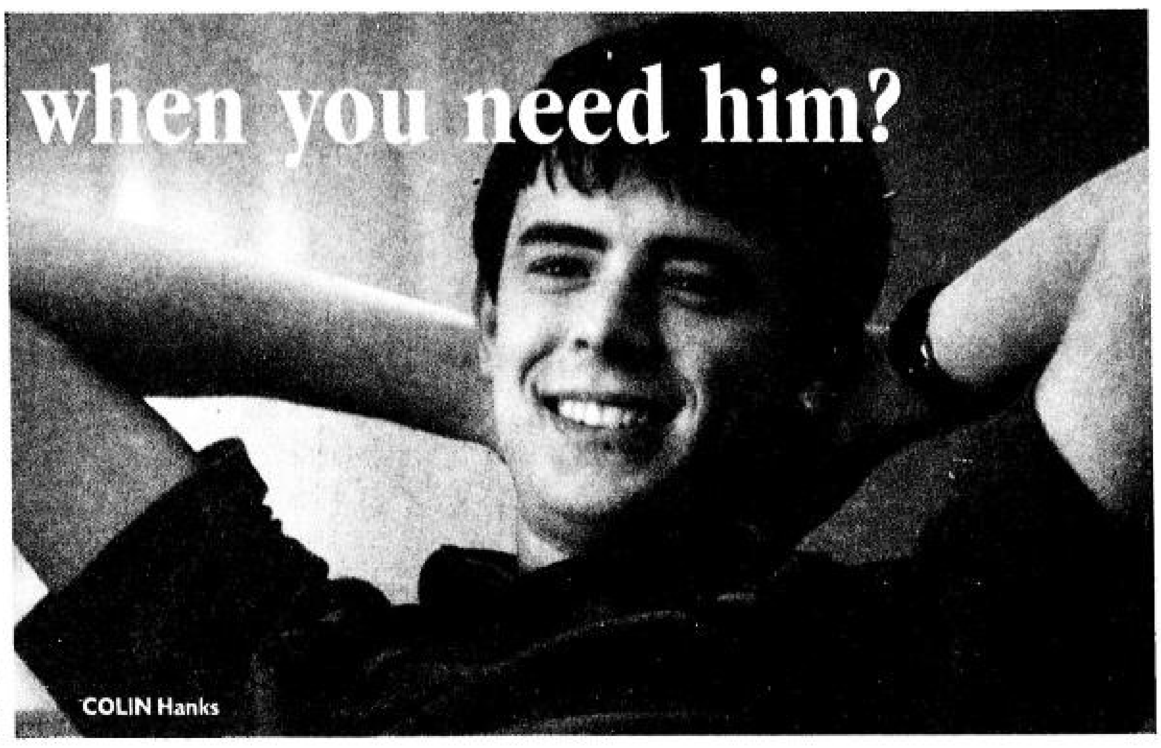
'ORANGE COUNTY'

Where's John Hughes when you need him?



COLIN Hanks

By Ruben M. Cruz Jr.,
Contributor

REVIEW

I NEVER thought I'd say this, but they don't make teen movies like they used to.

The teen movies that I grew up with were so much better. "The Breakfast Club," "Some Kind of Wonderful," "Pretty in Pink," "Ferris Bueller's Day Off." They were insightful and emotionally true not just for the teenagers of my time but for everyone who has ever gone through adolescence.

Where's John Hughes when you need him on a rain-drenched evening at the moviehouse?

Perhaps I'm just idealizing the films of my generation, but they are really a cut above today's teen films, which seem to be relying more and more on crass humor, flesh-baring and brainless plots to lure kids into watching them.

Of course there are always exceptions like Curtis Hanson's "Wonder Boys" and Wes Anderson's "Rushmore" but they come few and far between.

"Orange County" could easily have been another exception. Unlike its contemporaries, it doesn't rely on sex and fart jokes to carry its humor. And although its story is a bit superficial, its script is peppered with snappy repartee and has an underlying logic that could inspire more serious musings.

Unfunny comedy

The only problem is for a film that's supposed to be a comedy, it's not very funny. There are laugh-out-loud moments for sure, thanks mainly to the typically manic performance of Jake Black who plays the hero's drugged-out older brother (he gets to parade in his underwear again) and some funny cameo performances by big name stars (Lily Tomlin and Chevy Chase in particular) but one gets a sense that these moments are more like appendages put by MTV Films to dumb down the material for a broader audience.

They're more like sitcom gags than intrinsically funny events that flow naturally from the plot.

Nevertheless, the film is much better off focusing on the anxieties of its main character, Shaun Brumder (Colin Hanks), a high school senior living in the simple but affluent setting of Orange County, California.

Search for meaning

Shaun spends most of his days surfing six-foot waves, playing volleyball and having nighttime bonfires at the beach with his super-sweet girlfriend, Ashley (Schuyler Fisk).

His workaholic father and alcoholic mother are divorced, and he lives with his stepdad (a wheelchair-bound grandfather whom his mother married only for money) and his basket-case brother. But despite his dysfunctional family, he's living a happy carefree life.

The death of a close friend provokes him, however, to search for a more meaningful existence. And one day, while on the beach pondering the unknown path of his future, he digs up a weather-beaten copy of "Straight Jacket," a novel written by Stanford professor Marcus Skinner.

Shaun is awed by Skinner's writing: He reads the book 52 times. He decides he'll be a writer himself and sets his sights on Stanford so he could train under the tutelage of his literary hero.

Son of Tom

Suddenly his laid-back lifestyle no longer suits him and he feels that Orange County is stifling his dream. He shuns his surfer slacker ways and starts writing a story about his life in Orange County. It's good stuff and with his vastly improved grades he's a shoo-in at Stanford. Liberation is at hand.

But a guidance counselor (Tomlin) from hell sends in the wrong transcript with his college application, ruining his chances of admission.

Shaun tries to correct the error with the help of his brother and girlfriend, but the more he tries, the more things get out of control.

I admit I came to see "Orange County" mainly because I was curious about Colin Hanks, the son of two-time Oscar winner Tom and actress Rita Wilson.

The young Hanks exudes that likeable everyman quality of his father and his acting abilities resemble those of Tom's during his days on television's "Bossom Buddies." There are scenes when he's quite a dead ringer, having exactly his father's intonation, exaggerated expressions, and knack for physical comedy.

Daughter of Sissy

This is Colin's acting debut and though he's not immediately impressive he doesn't do a bad job either. At least he doesn't try too hard.

Also, Colin is not the only pedigreed actor in "Orange County." His girlfriend Fisk is the daughter of Sissy Spacek, whose latest Oscar best actress nomination is for her performance in "In the Bedroom." Fisk is a natural.

She's not the "extraordinarily pretty girlfriend" that most teen films feature but she's twice as beguiling as the typical sex bomb and easily takes her role beyond what is merely required.

"Orange County" director Jake Kasdan ("Zero Effect") is another famous offspring, being the son of Oscar-nominated writer/producer Lawrence Kasdan ("The Big Chill", "The Accidental Tourist").

The young director's method of zippy storytelling is perfect for this genre and he ably fills the corners of the plot with nice touches and details (the cheerleader's parody, for instance).

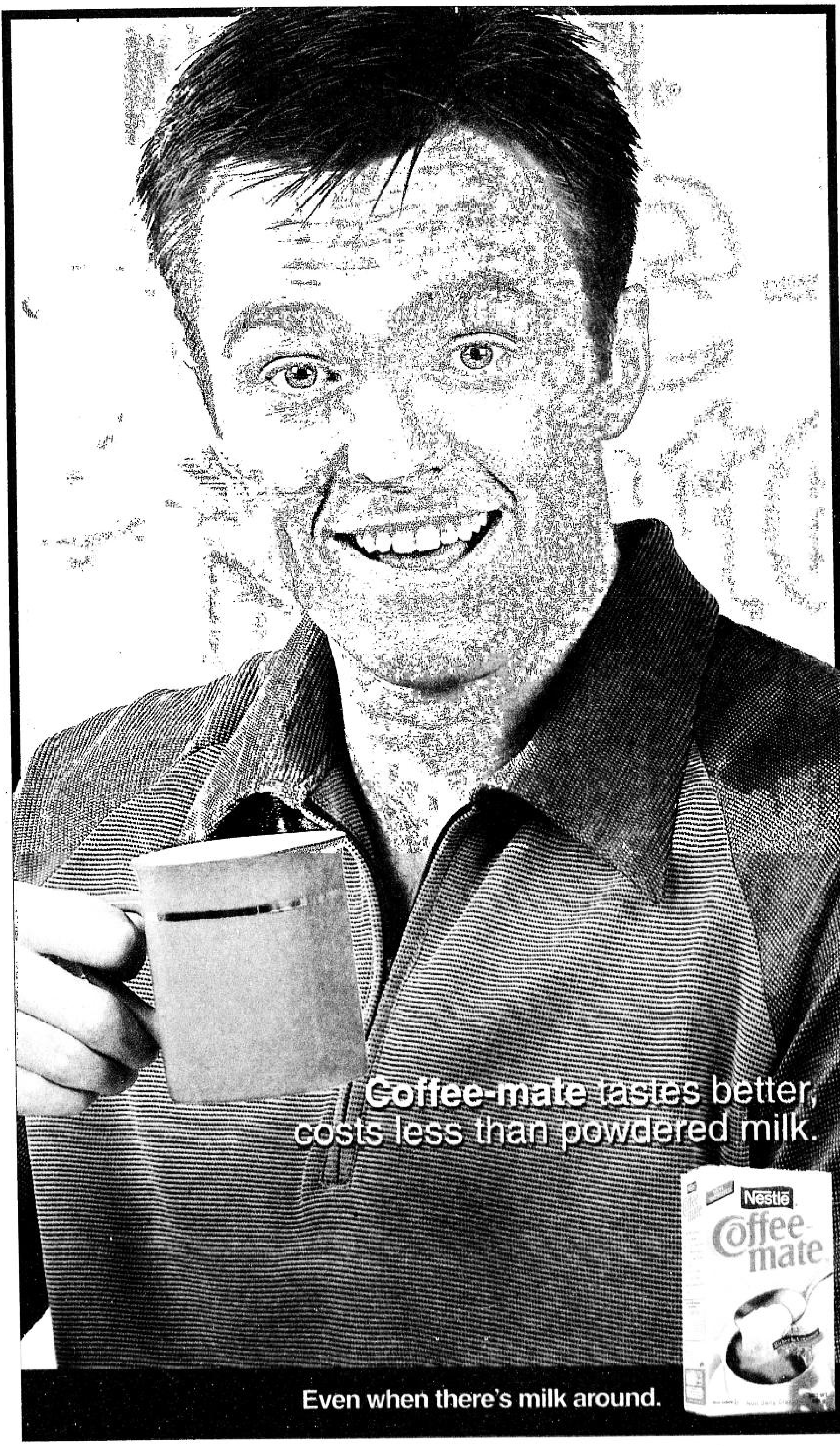
In the shadows

The film seems torn between two conflicting possibilities, though: It's structured like a comedy but you also get a sense of an attempt to delve into darker and more serious themes, like the cathartic experience of someone's death, for example, or the possibility of wholeness even in a fractured family, or Shaun's despair as the springboard of his hope for the future.

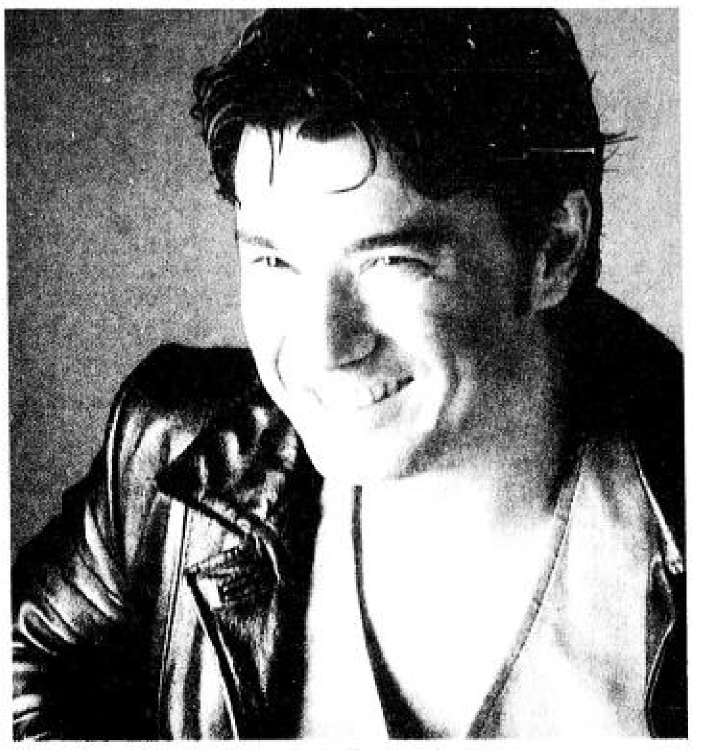
It is only during the lowest point of Shaun's life that he realizes what he truly wants and hopes for and acts towards its realization. Gabriel Marcel says, "The truth is . . . there can be no hope except when the temptation to despair exists. Hope is the act by which this temptation is actively or victoriously overcome."

But then again, perhaps I'm just reading something into the film, which I tend to do whenever I have to submit a paper in theology class. I wish, though, that the filmmakers allowed the plot to lead the film into the shadows rather than just stay in the lighter, sunny side of MTV slanting.

I know it's a comedy but sometimes the shadows can be funnier.


Coffee-mate tastes better,
costs less than powdered milk.
Nestlé
Coffee-mate
Even when there's milk around.

Albert: Why accept a role and then refuse to do certain scenes?



MARTINEZ. At his most daring in "Laman."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

ALBERT Martinez in a three-way sex scene?

For the husband of **Liezl Sumilang** and the father of three children, no scene is too tough or too bold considering that he has done many sexy films, the most recent of which was "Ang Galing Galing Mo Babes" opposite **Joyce Jimenez**.

For **Maryo J. de los Reyes**' "Laman" for Regal Entertainment, Albert agreed to do a sizzling *menage a trois* on the big screen, with sexy newcomer **Lolita de Leon** and **Yul Servo**.

Albert says he didn't have second thoughts about doing the scene.

"I see no point in accepting the role and then refusing to do the scene," he says. "Sometimes, we have to do what may shock even ourselves if only to do something worthwhile."

Direk Maryo attests the three-way sex is one of the film's highlights. "The three protagonists are carried away by the same carnal desire that makes them human," he says.

Albert describes his role as a "first-rate hustler," who knows the corruptive power of sexual desire.

"Through his character's ways, we see the kind of exploitation one is exposed to when he becomes slave to the passions of an illicit love affair," the director says.

Not much new at Nuvo

MY FRIEND and former officemate **Susan de Guzman** initiated a weekend dinner gimmick last Friday so we could try out Greenbelt 2's newest pride, Nuvo Restaurant.

I became eager to join, especially after I read a review of Nuvo written by **Amando Doronilla** in Elan (Aug. 3, 2002). Mr. Doronilla wrote that the foie gras at Nuvo "will send you into flights of ecstasy."

My friends know that I go for the best foie gras in town, so even if I was the last one to arrive that night, I had my foie gras as soon as I sat down on the table.

The night before, **Ivy** and I made sure we had a reservation because Nuvo was always full even after midnight.

But our group had mixed reaction to the food. I was nowhere near any "flights of ecstasy" after I finished my pan-fried foie gras, served on a mound of mashed potato.

I swear the one at Old Manila of the Peninsula is much better. Le Souffle's version is also mouth-watering. La Mecene, on Kalayaan Avenue in Makati, has a good foie gras, too.

At Nuvo, **Tanya**, Ivy and I had the pesto with creamy cheese tortellini, sea bass and zucchini.

The pasta had only small servings but was filling enough. If your friend has a huge appetite, he can't be satisfied with the portions.

Ivy ordered tomato soup before her pasta and when **Frederick** tasted it, he said the sauce of Ligo sardines was better.

Iñaki was disappointed with his salmon, but said his cucumber soup was okay.

Susan complained that her grilled tuna belly was too dry, but Frederick was pleased with his serving of the same dish.

Francine shared her carbonara with anyone who wanted to taste it. "It was nothing spectacular," she remarked.

Anjie, meanwhile, gave a thumbs-up for her crispy lapu-lapu.

Some of us, especially Iñaki, became instant food critics that night, while others simply chose to ignore the disappointing meal.

And to think Nuvo is not cheap. Oh well, we simply said we all deserved a fine dining ambiance after a week of hard work.

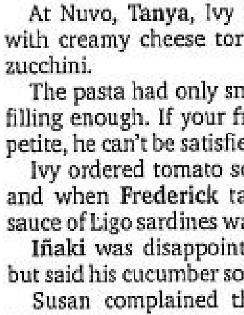
At least we ate using **Arthur Krupp** silverware from Germany. How's that for consolation?

For dessert, we all got a kick out of the sweet delights at the nearby Segafredo.

Anti-piracy in Navotas

EVEN non-show biz politicians have been doing their share in combating piracy and thus supporting the aggressive campaign of Videogram Regulatory Board Chair **Bong Revilla Jr.**

Navotas Mayor **Toby Tiangco** strictly implements a local ordinance that penalizes business owners who sell pirated film or music discs and tapes. The ordinance also allows the town to revoke the business permits of the seller.



TIANGCO. Supports anti-piracy crusade of Bong Revilla Jr.

Tiangco created an anti-piracy task force which monitors the sale of fake video products.

"With the local ordinance, we don't have to wait for an agent to be deputized by the VRB before we can conduct a raid," Tiangco said.

"We can implement the ordinance to cancel business permits if you're caught selling pirated wares."

Tiangco also said local police in Navotas can enforce the anti-piracy ordinance, like they do with anti-littering.

"We educate the police in Navotas on the local ordinances so they'll know what to do."

No perfect guy

WHOSE girl, in her right mind, would cheat on **Richard Gere**?

That was the question our film reviewer, **Ruben Cruz Jr.**, asked me before watching the SM Megamall premiere of "Unfaithful," which stars Richard Gere and **Diane Lane**.

While Gere may epitomize the guy who is every girl's fantasy—rich, popular and downright good-looking even in his 50s—he still is not the perfect one. In fact, no guy is. So the question shouldn't really be asked at all.

"Unfaithful" starts out as romantic fare, develops into an intense drama and climaxes in a shocking and tragic ending.

I agree with Ruben when he said in his review that the film is definitely a Lane vehicle. But Gere undeniably provides the bigger come-on.

I've talked with a few guys who don't want to watch the film because the plot deals with illicit affairs. That's understandable, considering that many Filipino men are still chauvinists.

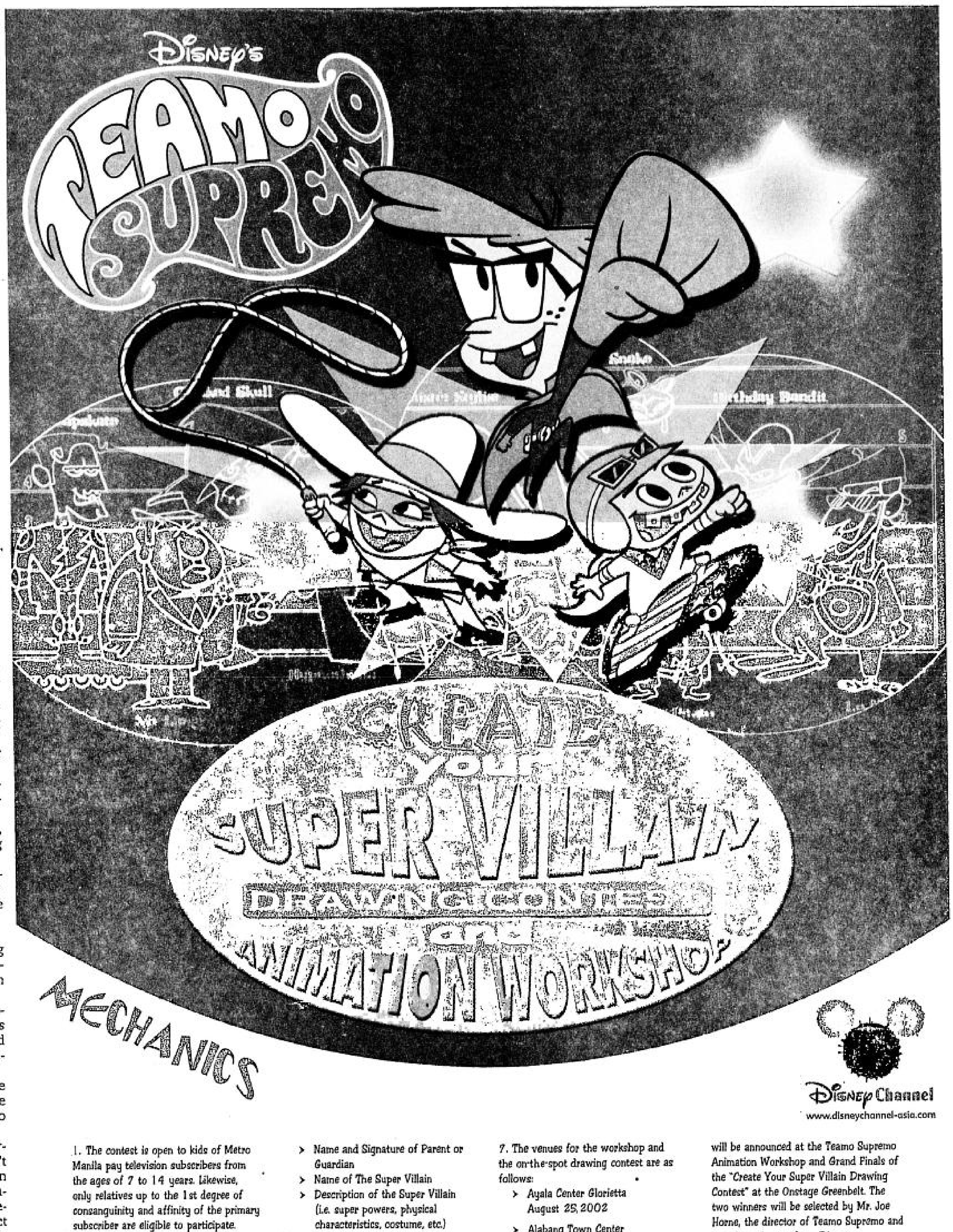
If another director had been at the helm of "Unfaithful," I would have dismissed the film as another tale of forbidden love. But **Adrian Lyne** ("Fatal Attraction," "Indecent Proposal") is an expert in weaving stunning plots about infidelity.

The advance screening was presented by Monster Radio RX 93.1 and attended by Audio-Visual Communications president **Chito Barreiro** and his lovely wife **Chingay**. RX dj **Boom Gonzales** hosted the short program prior to the screening.

Calvin sings for mom

CALVIN Millado will sing for his mom, **Blanquita**, who will have an advance birthday celebration tonight at Country Waffles in Rockwell, where Calvin has an extended run of his Friday night concert series. The actual birthday of his mom is on Monday.

Calvin performs at Rockwell every Friday for the whole month of August.



Disney's
Teamo Supremo
Create Your Super Villain Drawing Contest and Animation Workshop
Mechanics
Disney Channel
www.disneychannel-asia.com

1. The contest is open to kids of Metro Manila pay television subscribers from the ages of 7 to 14 years. Likewise, only relatives up to the 1st degree of consanguinity and affinity of the primary subscriber are eligible to participate.

2. The contest is open to all Metro Manila households that are pay television subscribers of The Disney Channel Asia as of July 31, 2002 only.

3. To join, contestants must submit an original color drawing of a super villain on a short bond paper with the following information:

- Name
- Age
- Home Telephone Number
- Postal Address
- Birthday
- Email Address
- Name of Cable or Satellite TV Operator
- Cable/Satellite Subscriber Number
- Name and Signature of Parent or Guardian
- Name of The Super Villain
- Description of the Super Villain (i.e. super powers, physical characteristics, costume, etc.)

4. Contest period is from August 1 to 21, 2002. All entries must be received on or before August 21, 2002.

5. All entries must be mailed to :

The Disney Channel Asia
P.O. Box 2892
Makati City
Philippines

6. A total of 150 semi-finalists will be selected to join a series of animation workshops to be scheduled in Ayala Center Malls. The screening panel will be composed of professional animators, executives of The Disney Channel Asia and representatives of Braveworld Events and Creative Services.

7. The venues for the workshop and the on-the-spot drawing contest are as follows:

- Ayala Center Glorietta August 25, 2002
- Alabang Town Center August 30, 2002

8. Employees of The Disney Channel Asia, Braveworld Events and Creative Services and other advertising and promotions agencies of The Disney Channel Asia in the Philippines and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity are not eligible to join this contest.

9. In each of the on-the-spot drawing contest venues a total of 15 entries will be selected as the finalists for the Grand Prize. There will be one Grand Prize Winner per mall or a total of two (2) winners. On September 11, 2002 the Grand Prize winners for each of the malls will be announced at the Teamo Supremo Animation Workshop and Grand Finals of the "Create Your Super Villain Drawing Contest" at the Onstage Greenbelt. The two winners will be selected by Mr. Joe Horne, the director of Teamo Supremo and a senior animator from Disney.

10. The two (2) winners of the Grand Prize will be receiving the following prizes:

- A Special Edition Trophy from The Disney Channel
- P 20,000 worth of toys
- Gift Certificates
- The winning Super Villains will be rendered in a poster and a comic strip by Teamo Supremo Animators in The Disney Channel Fun Page of The Manila Bulletin

11. All entries submitted shall automatically become properties of the Disney Channel.

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Onstage
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MARI-LEN DINGLASAN

'I'm a liberal kind of chairman with a conservative streak'

By Marinel R. Cruz

DINGLASAN. No bigot she, says the MTRCB chair. EDWIN BACASMAS

CONTRARY to the initial public perception of her, new Movie and Television Review and Classification Board Chair Mari-len Dinglasan is no holy terror.

She merely wants "some decency, civility and social responsibility" from producers, directors and actors, according to Dinglasan.

"We believe that they know better than we what is fit for public exhibition and what is not," she told the INQUIRER. "Let's not feed the youth with things that can be offensive and that can make them want not to be good citizens in the future."

The MTRCB under Dinglasan recently granted an R-18 rating to Ed Palmos' sex-drama "Ang Galing Galing Mo, Babes" after giving it an X-rating twice.

She said the board revoked the X-rating only after the producer, Imus Productions, certified that it had re-shot or re-edited at least 30 percent of the movie.

"I told them that if they didn't want to refilm or cut anything, we couldn't do anything (about the X-rating)," Dinglasan said. "We have to stay as close as possible to the letter of the law."

Joyce Jimenez and Albert Martinez star in "Babes."

Fuel for economy

Dinglasan said that if the movie outfit denied the board's request to refilm or re-edit, it could appeal to the Office of the President, "but if we're (MTRCB) doing our work right, I don't expect Malacañang to overturn our decision."

She said the law mandates the MTRCB to review and classify films, as well as to initiate projects, improve and make viable the industry as a source of "fuel" for the national economy.

A producer normally submits a material for classification after the board has approved his application for permit to review. A three-member screening committee is then chosen to classify the movie: G for general, PG 13 (parental guidance) meaning children can watch if accompanied by their parents, R-18 (restricted to moviegoers 18 years old and above), and X (disallowed for exhibition).

VRB vice chair

"It is specific in the law how we should classify," Dinglasan said. "If the producer is not happy with the first classification, they can seek another review."

The producer is allowed to appoint a representative or the producer himself can be present during the review to defend his material.

A second review committee is composed of five members. Only one of the members of the previous board will sit with the second committee as an observer.

Since March 19, 2001, Dinglasan had been serving as vice chair of the Video Regulatory Board. Last May 19, she replaced then MTRCB chair Alejandro Roces, who is now board director of the Philippine Postal Savings Bank.

Roces had been reportedly unaware of the reason for his removal as MTRCB chair. "When a reporter asked him to comment about (his removal), he hadn't been told that he was out," Dinglasan recalled. "But that didn't mean he didn't know that it was being processed."

She said Roces had told President Macapagal-Arroyo that he could not handle any more controversies at his age and he wanted an easier and lighter job.

Listener

Dinglasan describes herself as a "liberal kind of chairman with a conservative streak."

"Liberal because I don't come into my job as a bigoted person with my own ideas," she explained. "Of course I do have my opinions, but I will listen to all. But every decision that I make will have to be based on the law."

Dinglasan had been a schoolmate of the President from grade school to high school in Assumption College. She dreamt of being a doctor so she took up BS Biology at the St. Bonaventure University in New York.

After college, she married lawyer Adolfo "Pompoy" Dinglasan and they lived in Roxas City, Capiz for almost 20 years. Peace and order problems because of the presence of the communist New People's Army prompted them to move to Manila in 1988.

When President Macapagal told her about the censors' job, Dinglasan said she initially felt she was unfit for it.

"But when the President asks you, you can't say no," she said. "If you're called to serve, you should be available for public service."

Why Alaska is supporting Sharon and Mega Event

SHARON CUNETA. "Bridge to the Filipino family's heart."

MEGA EVENT, the concert of megastar Sharon Cuneta at the Araneta Coliseum tonight and tomorrow night, is the hottest ticket in town, the show biz event of the year.

Sharon's close relationship with her fans of all ages and classes is once more proven by the fact that the tickets were sold out long before the showdate.

Her followers religiously follow her career as well as her personal life. She has always depicted a happy, wholesome, all-Filipino image, an icon of glamour on and off screen. She has evolved from a very popular teenybopper to a warm, caring woman who is always ready to give much of herself.

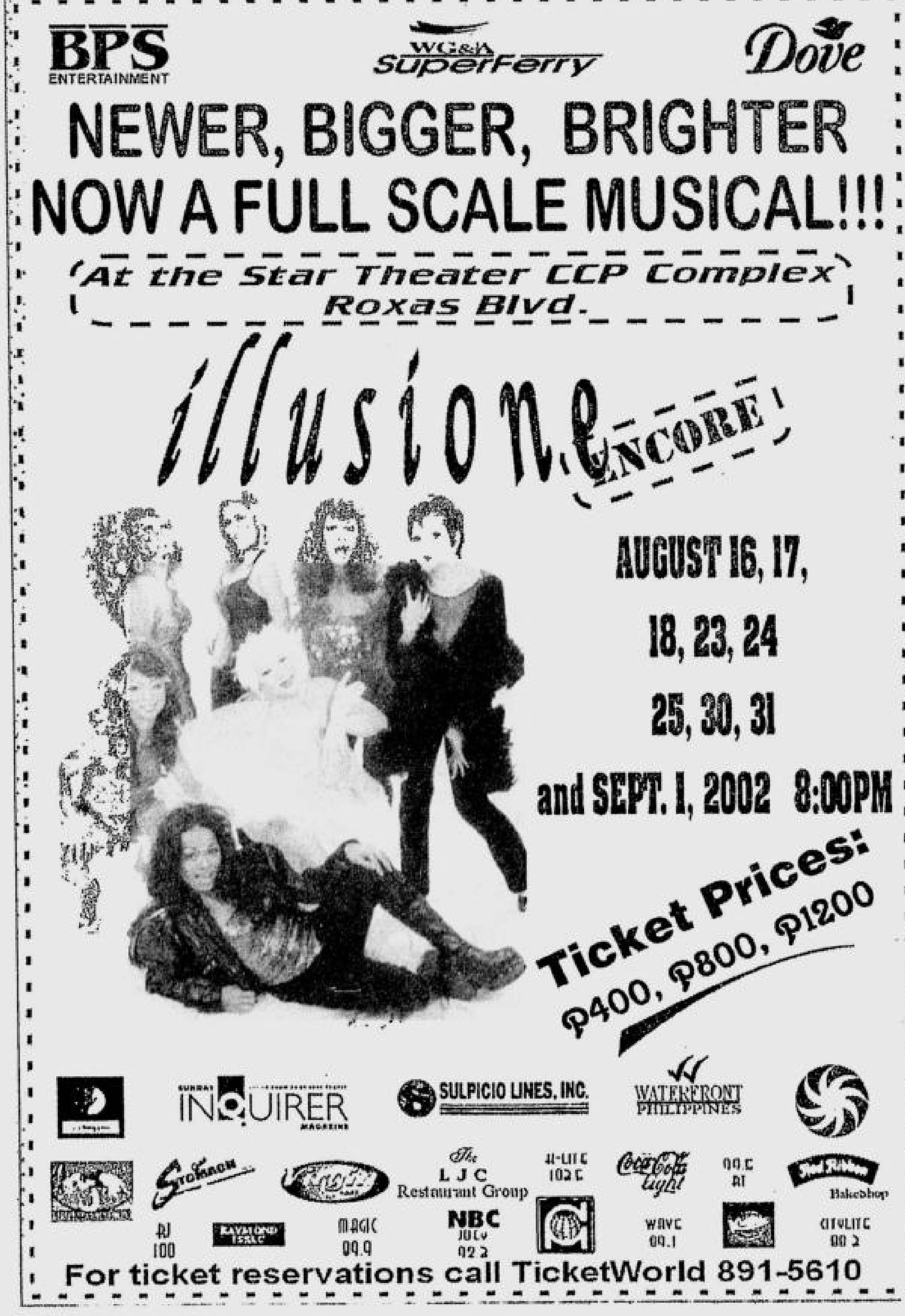
Her unchallenged success is one of the reasons why Alaska Milk Corp. continues to believe in her as a product endorser. The company is convinced that she embodies what Alaska stands for.

"When she drinks that glass of Alaska Milk or savors that *halo-halo* with Alaska, she exudes a genuine connection with the product which our consumers can see," says Alaska marketing director Belen Fernando.

Sharon's track record as Alaska endorser since 1998 is reflected in the steady sales growth of the milk products, according to Fernando. Both kinds of Alaska milk are the brand leaders in their categories, she adds.

"Product quality, taste and nutritional values must satisfy consumer demand," Fernando explains. "If these fall short of consumer expectations, not even a product endorser can keep the customers."

Sharon "is our bridge to the Filipino family's heart," Alaska president and CEO Fred Uytengsu Jr. said in a statement. "We salute with pride one of the most talented Filipino performers of the 21st century."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'ANGEL'

A bloody good time is had by all

By Oliver M. Pulumbarit
Contributor

"Angel," Studio 23, Tuesdays, 9 p.m.; Star World, Thursdays, 9 p.m.

REVIEW

CORDELIA gets a vision of a demon and its followers: "Its disciples are human, they're killing each other. I think the fight is over how to worship it!"

Angel responds, "This is why... I rarely go to church."

That deadpan wit is just a facet of the 248-year-old vampires' complex demeanor. It wasn't long ago when the character Angel was a supporting fixture on "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," but a rock-solid fan base catapulted actor David Boreanaz into TV stardom. He continues to play this role in his own series, co-created by "Buffy" guru Joss Whedon.

Joining Boreanaz are his motley crew of misfits: aspiring actress Cordelia (Charisma Carpenter), scholarly ex-Watcher Wesley (Alexis Denisof) and street-smart monster-hunter Gunn (J. August Richards). The quartet investigates magic-related cases, and in the process, "save lost souls."

As devout Buffy followers already know, Angel is the only vampire gifted and cursed with a soul. His current base of operations is Los Angeles, the City of (anything but) Angels.

Black, white, gray

The show has capably stood on its own with darker storylines that not only examine the black and white fight between good and evil but also the grayness of moral dilemmas.

Angel is the angsty brooder, the wounded knight in Whedon's opus. Viewers were thrilled when he and the Slayer became an item. When they made love for the first time, the second phase of a gypsy curse was activated. With this one moment of true happiness, Angel lost his soul again, and reverted to his vicious "Angelus" persona.

Angelus tormented Buffy and her friends and even killed her Watcher's girlfriend. For half a season he teamed up with Sunnydale's most detestable villains, but was ultimately killed by Buffy herself.

Cast into a hell-like dimension for a century (but only months in earth time), Angel was released by the enigmatic "Powers That Be" for a renewed mission of redemption. Alive again (but still ironically undead) and with his human soul reclaimed, he left Sunnydale for his own territory.

Singing demon

As it turns out, L.A. has its own supernatural underbelly. There's a secret demon massage parlor, a gladiatorial "fight club," auctions, and even a karaoke bar. There's a law firm, Wolfram and Hart, whose clients are literally monsters. The lawyers themselves, despite being humans, are some of the vilest Angel's ever met.

That's when the duality of appearances come to play: The lawyers are attractive people, but "The Host" is a garden-variety, traditional-looking demon in a suit who helps Angel and other problematic creatures with their problems. The Host owns the aforementioned karaoke bar. His "psychiatric evaluation" is a result of his mystically "reading" the person or monster singing (Angel needed his guidance so he was forced to sing songs by Manilow and Wang Chung on two unrelated occasions).

The Host himself bursts into song once in a while, and once sang Oleta Adams' "Get Here" in a trippy dream sequence.

Strange humor

It's disturbing, to say the least, but that best describes the strange humor that Whedon and his writers are known for.

With the subject of appearances in the Angel-verse and the parent series, there are good, bad and ambivalent types of subterrestrials (read: monsters).

Doyle (Glenn Quinn) definitely fits with the good half-demon category, as he heroically gave his life to save others but not before he gave his precognitive power to Cordelia so it might be put to further use.

Conventions and stereotypes are challenged, because not everything that's scary-looking is necessarily a bad thing.

The "Buffy" characters transplanted in "Angel" have become integral to the bigger design of things, and their personalities augment Angel's. Cordelia, the underused airhead of the Scoobies, now provides the frank opinions that are voiced out what everybody's thinking. Her potentials are gradually being explored, and she's not shallow anymore like she was on "Buffy".

Flashbacks

Wesley still bumbles around, but he's also still able to kick enemy butt when it comes down to it. His stiff-upper-lip composure gives the cast its resident cultured brainiac.

Gunn is the only regular new character to debut in the series' initial season. Now a hired muscle for Team Angel, he contributes his combat skills and knowledge of L.A.'s creepy hotspots and activities.

Important flashbacks often reveal Angel's checkered history. Especially fascinating is his twisted, undead family tree which includes her old vamp flame Darla (Julie Benz) and the vamp that Angel "sired," the lunatic Drusilla (the amazing Juliet Landau).

Also immortal, they have formed a temporary unholy alliance with Wolfram and Hart in the current season. Both women have plagued Sunnydalers before, and it's a stroke of genius to put them in Angel's gallery of rogues.

Angel failed miserably at saving Darla, but his mission is reaffirmed by his success at reforming the renegade Slayer Faith (Eliza Dushku) and the many lives that his group has saved.

Twice as thrilling

"Angel" enhances "Buffy" in the sense that it expands on the original series' mythological range. The power of all Slayers, for instance, and Cordelia's psychic visions are used in the service of the mysterious Powers That Be. Concepts that aren't used for Sunnydale's small town environment work in the cluttered cityscape of L.A.

But the shows are apples and oranges, or, more precisely, vampires and Slayers. While Angel is the "wrongdoer on the road to salvation," Buffy will always be the "pure, incorruptible hero" prototype. While the Slayer protects innocents, the vampire with a soul helps the hopeless that they may tread the same path he's taking.

Both shows complement each other, and it becomes twice as thrilling when a crossover takes place.

Boreanaz can switch from credible stalwart do-gooder to credible creep in a second. The characters, his allies and foes, create an atmospheric world that just breathes with life.

Joss Whedon is arguably television's Jack Kirby. Like the comic book legend, Whedon's work has a subversive, promethean nature to it. He has proven himself to be at par with other creative deities like Chris Carter, Kevin Smith or George Lucas.

His disciples need not worship him, but his "churches" will always be a delight to visit.

Long live Art Linkletter

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

LARRY King recently honored Art **Linkletter** with a special interview and nostalgic showcase on the occasion of Linkletter's 90th birthday. Yes the well-loved host of the long-running TV show, "Kids Say the Darndest Things," is nine decades old—but he definitely doesn't look or act it.

Linkletter still looks like he's in his 60s, and isn't at all bothered by the steadily encroaching years. Viewing Larry King's tribute to him, we got a lot of valuable tips about how to age not just gracefully but also dynamically from the TV host whom King has dubbed "an American treasure."

Definitely, Linkletter has more than sheer longevity going for him. How did he get to live so long—and still be so full of vitality? We learned from him and his friends who gusted on the special show that he hardly ever gets mad—most problems just don't seem to be worth his fuss and bother.

Even more tellingly, he still loves to go to work in the morning. Yes, he's never even thought of retirement! His secret: work with people you love.

Is there a good side to growing old? Definitely. Linkletter shared that it's made him more tolerant and caring. He now appreciates even more the importance of family, which should be central to our lives.

Other tips: Be passionate about your work. Learn *all* the time. *Welcome* change. Discover something new every year (he learned to ski at 60; he also invented the hula hoop).

He never smoked or drank, because he wanted to become a great athlete. Instead, he ended up on TV, pioneering in getting a lot of great quotes and unintentionally funny comments about life from the mouths of babes.

Surely, his working with kids for decades (the "Kids Say . . ." show is now hosted by **Bill Cosby**) has also helped keep Linkletter young. Plus: Always wanting to do things better, and being genuinely interested in people—not as a group, but as fascinating individuals, each with something unique to share.

What does he hate? "Vulgarity and pornography." Clean living and thinking are powerful anti-pollution and thus anti-aging weapons, too.

Long live Art Linkletter! All the way to 100? Why not? He knows what to do to get there!

'Enough'

ASIDE from being singing and dancing, **Jennifer Lopez** is keen on her acting career. Her new movie, the suspense-thriller "Enough," casts her in a particularly challenging role: she plays a working-class woman who marries the man of her dreams, a wealthy contractor portrayed by **Billy Campbell**.

Life is wonderful for J. Lo's character—until she discovers her "perfect" husband's cruel side. He has a controlling alter ego that turns their domestic tranquility into a living hell.

Terrified for her daughter, the wife tries to escape—but her husband relentlessly pursues her. She changes her identity and appearance, but he's still able to track her down. In the end, she stops running—and fights for her life.

Movies on TV

FILMS on the HBO channel: Friday, Aug. 16 at 6:30 a.m., "Wyatt Earp." 11:30 a.m., "Bicentennial Man." 1:45 p.m., "The Legend of 1900" (an original HBO movie).

Saturday, Aug. 17 at 11:15 a.m., "Philadelphia." 4 a.m., "Liberty Heights." Sunday, Aug. 18 at 11:30 a.m., "Allan Quatermain and the Lost City of Gold." 3:30 p.m., "Chicken Run."

Monday, Aug. 19 at 3:30 p.m., "Guarding Tess." 5:15 p.m., "Girl Interrupted." 12:30 a.m., "The Godfather Part 3." Tuesday, Aug. 20 at 8 p.m., "Three Kings."

Wednesday, Aug. 21 at 10:30 p.m., "Victory." Thursday, Aug. 22 at 11 p.m., "Little Women."

On the Cinemax channel: Friday, Aug. 16 at 8:15 a.m., "Joan of Arc." 12:15 p.m., "Snow Falling on Cedars." 4:15 p.m., "The Chief Detective." 5:45 p.m., "Stand and Deliver."

Saturday, Aug. 17 at 9 p.m., "Almost Famous." Sunday, Aug. 18 at 9 a.m., "Riders of the Purple Sage." 2 p.m., "Project Greenlight 5: The Crunch of Time." 2:30 p.m., "Beetlejuice." 5 a.m., "Aliens Among Us."

Monday, Aug. 19 at 6:30 a.m., "Where Are My Children." 8:30 p.m., "Project Greenlight 6: Execution of the Day." 4 a.m., "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas." Tuesday, Aug. 20 at 6 a.m., "American History X." 9:45 a.m., "Almost Famous." 5:15 p.m., "The Deep."

Wednesday, Aug. 21 at 7:30 a.m., "The Glenn Miller Story." 9:30 a.m., "The Whole Nine Yards." 11:15 a.m., "The Big Heist." Thursday, Aug. 22 at 12:30 p.m., "Romanoff and Juliet." 9 p.m., "Snow Falling on Cedars."

Bobby Garcia guests in 'Coffee Talk' on ANC this weekend

MAVERICK stage director Bobby Garcia unwinds after the success of his most recent production, "Tick, Tick Boom" and shares a relaxed moment with Cheri Mercado on "Coffee Talk" this weekend.

Get a backstage pass to Bobby's life outside the theater and find out more about the inspiration that moves the young visionary who's rocking Philippine theater.

Meanwhile, the latest endorsement princess is neither a movie star nor a professional model, but hers is the smile that greets you "magandang umaga" and "magandang tanghali" five days a week, the face that makes you stop and look at those giant billboards and bus ads along EDSA, the figure that figured in a magazine's poll for the 100 sexiest women in the world and makes you wonder what does Pia Guanio still have up her sleeve?

Get up close and personal with Pia as she takes a quick coffee break with Cheri between shows.

Also featured this week are art classes at the Ayala Museum, a taste of Bangkok at Mandarin's Oriental Spa and another fab coffee spot in town. Perk up your weekends with Cheri Mercado and "Coffee Talk," 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Saturday and Sunday on the ABS-CBN News Channel (ANC).

SERVO. Believes in the virtue of patience.

Yul walks on the wild side after 'Batang West Side'

By Remy M. Umerez
Contributor

WHAT good will it do for a totally unknown actor to appear in a movie which no local theater owner would want to touch simply because the movie is too long?

Such is the fate of 22-year-old Yul Servo, whose real name is John. He shows no sign of disappointment that his first major movie, the 5-hour long "Batang Westside," has yet to be shown commercially.

The Bulakeño actor, whose eyes disappear whenever he laughs, believes in the virtue of patience.

"I waited several years for the chance to act," Servo said. "I never lose hope. I know what happened to my first movie. The negative reaction on its length will soon pass. It is doing well as a festival entry and foreign critics have been writing good things about the film. I know the time will come when the local audience will want to see "Batang Westside" and find out for themselves why it is creating waves abroad."

As far back as Yul can remember, he had always wanted to become an actor, against the wishes of his father who preferred to see his son become a policeman. Actually, Yul would not mind becoming a law enforcer because he also likes the idea of carrying a gun.

Ambition

Yul set aside his personal ambition and followed his father's wish. He took up a course in Criminology at the Philippine College of Criminology. All that he needed was to pass the board exams. If he failed the board, he said he had two other options to fall back on. He could shift to architecture because he also likes to draw, or he could become a seaman for he is fond of travelling.

But the acting bug hit him again when his uncle introduced him to Maryo J. delos Reyes. He was told to work out because he looked so thin. He followed Maryo's advice and, after months of working on his body, he gained access to the stable of hunks Maryo J. is managing.

On the strength of his absorbing portrayal of a character in "Batang Westside," Mother Lily did not think twice in casting Yul in "Laman."

Great actors

"I'm glad Yul took over the role of the *probinsyano* husband of Lolita de Leon, another newcomer whom we are launching as a bold actress," Mother Lily said. "In my 40 years of making movies, I've seen great actors and talents. I've seen it all and I treasure the rare instances when their performances give me an emotional high. When I saw Yul in his heart-tugging scenes, I find myself so taken by his performance that I cried."

"Laman" is Yul's second movie, and a far cry from his first which was shot entirely in the United States. It is also his boldest because the story is about crimes of passion.

The movie contains lots of steamy scenes, one of which required Yul to hop on bed in a *menage a trois* with Lolita and Albert Martinez.

Taking off his clothes in front of the cameras is not a mean feat for Yul. He usually has on a pair of briefs and pulls it down just a little to create the impression that he is totally naked.

Yul found difficulty in one scene when his character found out that his screen wife was carrying on an illicit affair with Albert.

"Direk Maryo wanted me to control my tears in that scene," he said. "It was when my character finally realized that his wife enjoys sex only with Albert."

Yul explained that the director wanted him to "cry inside."

Internalize

"It was hard, but I succeeded in doing what I was told," he said. "I also thanked Albert for helping me internalize. I am indebted to Albert for the support he gave me. He is one actor who enjoys helping out newcomers like me and I appreciate that."

The director meanwhile described Yul as another Joel Torre in the making. Maryo said Yul is like Joel, he acts without resorting to soap opera contortions.

According to Yul, he is not the type who entertains ideas on superstardom. He also doesn't see himself as a matinee idol whom fans would rush to asking for autographs.

He said his main focus now is to become a better actor, and be rewarded for his efforts.

Manhunt Philippines schedules screening

MANHUNT Philippines 2002, the country's most celebrated male pageant, will be held Oct. 18 at the NBC Tent at The Fort in Taguig, Metro Manila.

The winner will represent the country in the world pageant for Manhunt International in Beijing, China this November, where candidates from 40 countries will vie for the top plum.

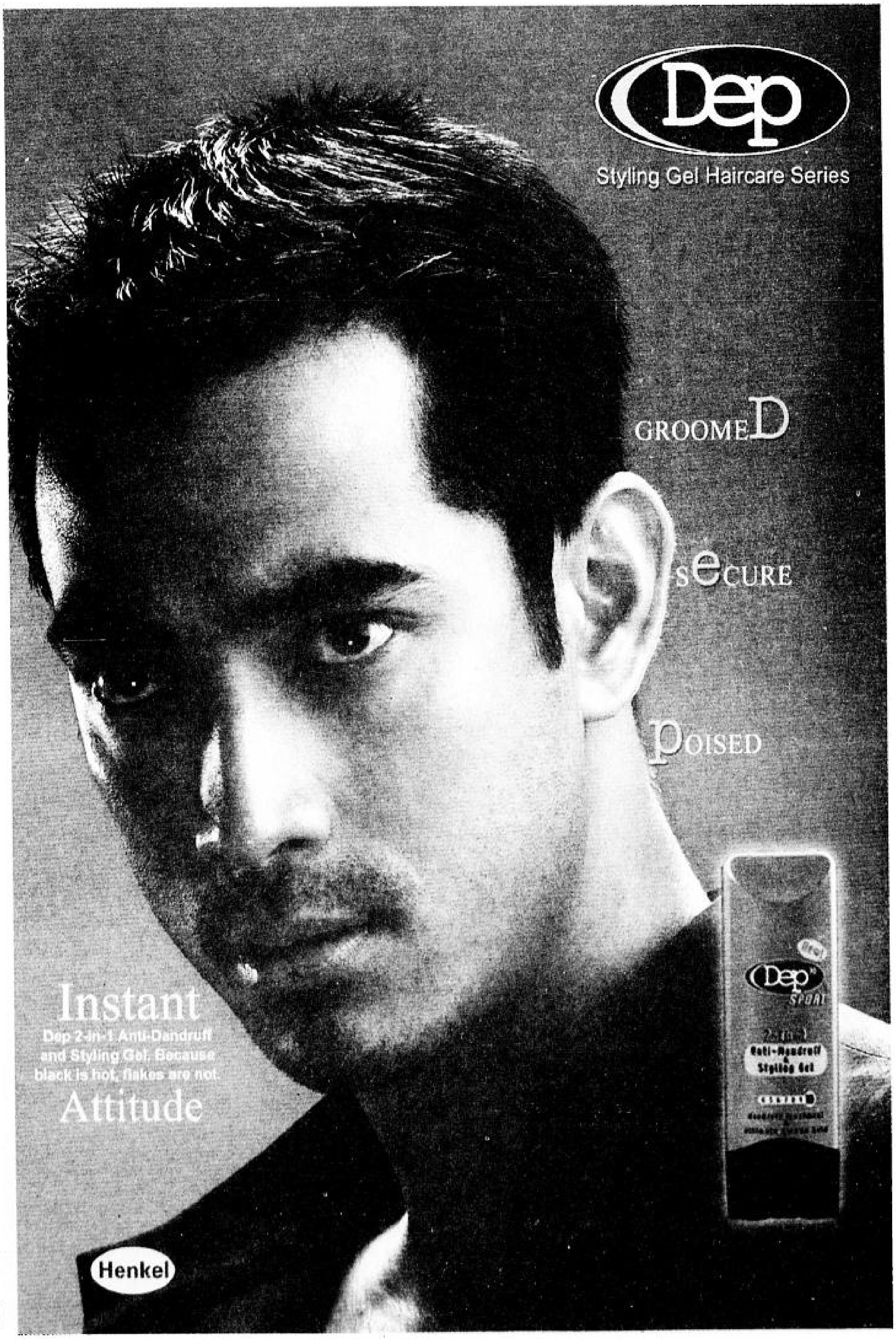
Manhunt Philippines 2002 is a male model quest that seeks to highlight the admirable qualities of the Filipino male worthy of emulation and recognition. It is also a contest that gives emphasis on great looks, physique, charisma, personality, talent and social consciousness.

Produced by Strategic Even Management and Production (Semap), Manhunt Philippines 2002 aims to elevate the male pageant's popularity and stature in the country and act as a vehicle to promote health, fitness, charity and social awareness among the youths of today.

Contestants must be 18-30 years old, good looking with sculpted physique, at least 5'10" in height, independent-minded, pleasing personality and of good moral character.

Semap has scheduled applicant-screening dates on Aug. 17, 18 and 24.

For inquiries, call the Secretariat at 687-4843, 687-0405 and 0916-426-8670.



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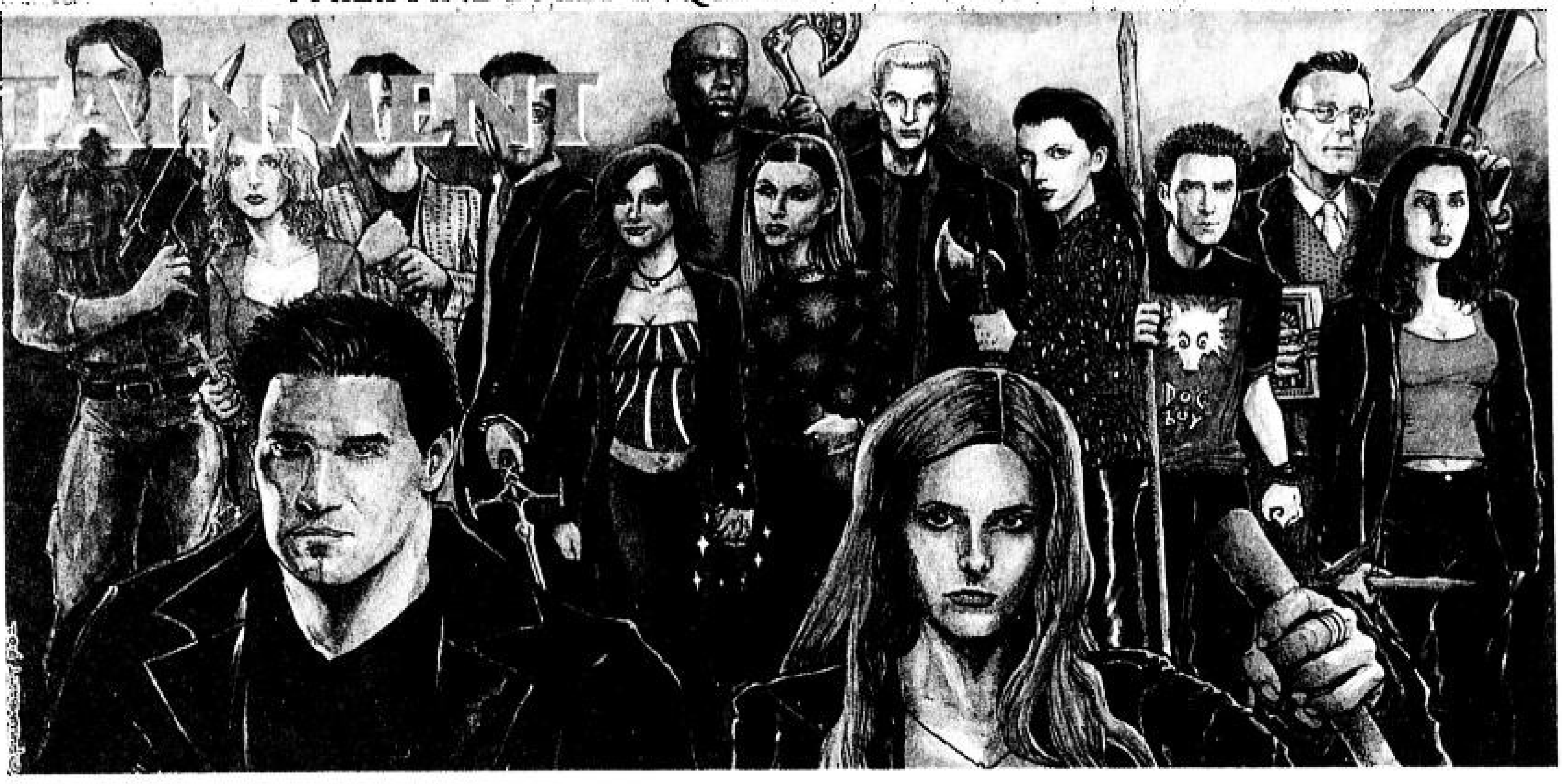
ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

'ANGEL'

A bloody good time is had by all

ANGEL, Buffy and the protectors of Sunnydale and L.A.



STORY on/ p. A30

FAN ART BY OLIVER M. PULUMBARIT

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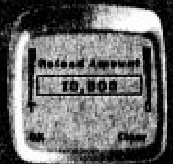

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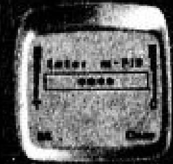

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Gov't plans $3B in new loans in 2003

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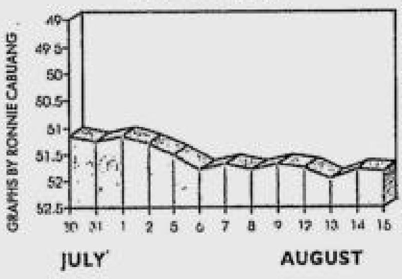
CURRENCIES

PESO - DOLLAR



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱ 51.81 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Aug. 15, 2002

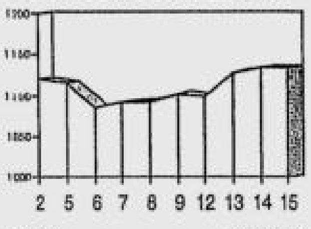
¥ 116.90 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Aug. 15, 2002

GOLD: $312.50/313
per ounce Hong Kong, Aug. 15, 2002

STOCK MARKET

Shares close slightly lower

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B6)

SHARE prices ended slightly lowe yesterday in light trading weighed down by concerns over the government's growing budge deficit, dealers said.

"Right now there is persistent concern over external developments, such as what is happening in the United States. On the macroeconomic front, concerns (over the deficit) still exist," said Oliver Plana of Asiasec Equities.

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index gave up 1.22 points or 0.1 percent to close at 1,133.09.

Turnover fell to 93.545 million shares worth P230.265 million from 303.22 million shares worth P397.78 million on Wednesday.

Plana said mixed earnings reports by companies have not given investors a cue on what direction to take.

PLDT added P2.50 to P297.50. "A" shares of Meralco inched up 25 centavos to P18.75, but its "B" shares were unchanged at P28.50.

Ayala Land was the most actively traded stock but closed lower on profit-taking after the previous day's gains. It shed 10 centavos at P6.10 while parent Ayala Corp. was down 10 centavos at P5.30.

AFP

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE NATIONAL government plans to borrow as much as $3 billion from foreign sources next year to cover bulk of its financial requirements while sustaining a low-interest rate regime and preventing the crowding out of funds needed by local enterprises.

A high-ranking finance official yesterday said the government planned to reverse its financing mix for next year in favor of foreign borrowings, as against the existing strategy where 67 percent of requirements was being sourced locally.

Next year, the official said the share of foreign financing as a percentage of the government's total requirements would rise to 85 percent from 33 percent this year.

"We don't want to crowd out the private sector. The overriding concern is economic growth. We want the continuation of the low interest rate environment," the official said.

The source explained that of the $3 billion worth in proposed foreign borrowings next year, about $1 billion, would be sourced as concessional loans from multilateral and bilateral lenders while the rest would be raised from the foreign capital markets.

With the continuation of low interest rates, the government hopes to encourage more local enterprises to borrow funds for expansion and help raise the country's overall productivity.

The official noted, however, that projections on the borrowing mix would still depend on whether assumptions on the behavior of local and foreign interest rates would be correct.

This year, the government, the biggest domestic borrower, is maximizing local borrowings as interest rates have dropped to historic lows. For instance, the bellwether 91-day treasury bill yield, which influences bank lending rates, has dropped below 5 percent as against the original projection of a 10-11 percent for this year.

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho has also assured that the Philippines would use fiscal discipline and higher growth to stay out of a Latin American-style debt trap despite fears it would have to borrow more.

GOV'T/ B6

UK firm eyes oil prospects in offshore Palawan

By Ronnel W. Domingo

AN ENERGY firm based in the United Kingdom has started a feasibility study on the exploration and development of the Reed Bank petroleum basin near Palawan, which the firm expects to yield 5,000 tons of methanol a day.

Nigel Quinton, managing director of Sterling Energy, said that the project would be the world's first offshore methanol field if Reed Bank proved productive.

Sterling Energy signed Geophysical Survey and Exploration Contract (GSEC) No. 101 with the Department of Energy last Wednesday.

"We chose to invest in the Philippines because of its nearness to a ready market for methanol," Quinton said on the sidelines of the signing ceremony.

He explained that methanol is used as fuel for lamps and lighting gear mainly for camping and other outdoor activities.

"If Reed Bank produces, we would sell the methanol to China, Japan, Korea and Singapore," Quinton said.

The official said that aside from methanol, Sterling Energy also expects to mine 2,000 tons of petroleum condensate a day.

Quinton said the firm would know whether or not to drill wells in the Reed Bank by end-2003.

"We are mainly doing desk work before we do physical work like a seismic survey," he said.

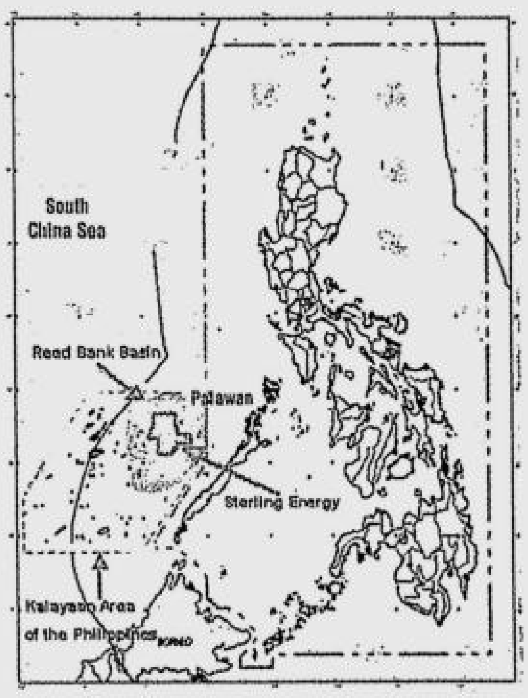
The Reed Bank basin is located in the eastern portion of the South China Sea, adjacent to the Malampaya natural gas field in Northwest Palawan.

The basin covers an area of 71,000 square kilometers and is estimated to hold about 35 million barrels of oil and 2.2 trillion cubic feet of gas.

Exploration for petroleum in the area began in 1970 with the first well—Sampaguita-1—producing natural gas in 1976.

Sampaguita-1 flowed 3.6 million cubic feet of natural gas and 24 barrels of condensate a day. This, however, was not

UK/ B6



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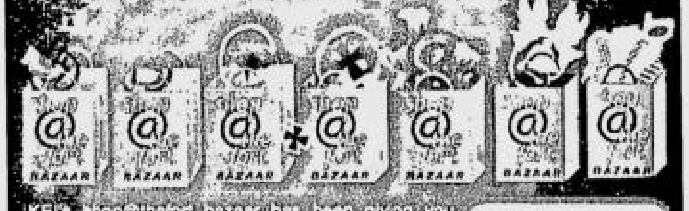

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Accounting anagrams

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

THE ACCOUNTING fallout from the Enron scandal continues to shake up the local numbers-crunchers, with Punongbayan and Araullo, having lost its longtime foreign partner Ernst and Young to SGV, now on the prowl for a new bride.

According to the grapevine, P&A has begun talks with Conchita Manabat, the blushing bachelorette head of the local unit of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, but that the UP professor is not harboring any illusion that it is her foreign partner, not she, that P&A wants to go to bed with.

The E&Y referral businesses are said to account for 40 percent of P&A annual revenues, whose loss would be hard to sustain Benjamin Punongbayan and Jose Araullo's 11 other partners as well as 430 staff unless a new foreign partner is found, and fast.

P&A had earlier tried to woo KPMG, but the word is that the New Jersey-based firm deferred any merger decision to its local partner, Laya Mananghaya.

The merger talks, to make a long story short, did not go past the first base after former Central Bank Governor Jaime Laya sensed that his local firm would be subsumed and become P&A's dinner instead.

According to the grapevine, P&A's offer to be "flexible" as to how the putative merger would be named had also been rebuffed. Somehow, LaMPA did not sound right.

Neither did MPALaya.

Gokongweis' new stance

STUNG by analyst criticisms about its opaque management style, JG Summit swamped reporters who attended Wednesday's annual stockholders' meeting with not one, but five financial reports.

In addition to JG Summit's, the business scribes were weighed down with quarterly reports of other Gokongwei publicly listed companies Digitel, Universal Robina and Robinsons Land.

JG Summit has also instituted quarterly briefings with financial analysts, which came about as a pleasant surprise to the business trackers.

As if to keep with the new image, even SGV vice chair Dave Balangue, the partner in charge of the JG Summit account, attended the stockholders' meet sans his trademark moustache, looking more like, well, a meek accountant, rather than like a Hollywood sheriff.

Camry overtakes Cefiro

THE NEW Camry has become the executive workhorse, if we go by the July sales report.

Camry sold a total of 101 units last month, its first month of introduction, as against longtime market leader Cefiro, which managed to move only 45.

According to Toyota spokesperson Ariel de Jesus, Camry's performance here mirrored that of Taiwan's and Thailand's, where Camry also seized the market lead from Nissan Cefiro since its introduction earlier this year.

The market no doubt took notice of Toyota's aggressive pricing and Camry's bigger, bolder looks, and its more powerful engine. Camry's top-of-the-line model has a 2.4-liter engine and goes for P1.55 million, against Cefiro's P1.68 million, 2-liter offering.

Hong Kong, here we come

CHRISTOPHER Po, otherwise known as Mr. Nanette Medved, has left JG Summit Holdings to accept an offer to join Guggenheim Consulting, an investment management group, in Hong Kong.

Po, who was CEO of Summit Internet Ventures, left the Gokongweis on Aug. 1, and immediately took off to Alaska with his actress-wife for an unstructured holiday.

Po's parents own Century Tuna.

Heard through the grapevine

A GROUP of local investigative journalists has been commissioned to look into the squeeze tactics that forced Kimberly-Clark to downscale its operations here and relocate to Thailand. *(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)*

Polo Club dispute traced to failed management bid

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

IS THE SELF-STYLED Good Governance team of former Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo and Central Bank Governor Jose L. Cuisia lobbying to install CCA or Club Corp. of Asia to manage one of the Philippines' most exclusive clubs?

Manila Polo Club first vice president Reynaldo A. Concepcion said he believed that CCA's failure to get the lucrative contract to manage the club impelled the Romulo-Cuisia group to launch a crusade against the MPC board led by president Policarpo L. Ascalon.

A spokesperson for the Romulo-Cuisia group stressed that the group was not lobbying for CCA (which runs the Tower Club where Romulo and Cuisia sit as directors) and that this speculation was meant to divert the issue of mismanagement and lack of transparency in the MPC board's operations.

Concepcion said that instead of ceding management to an outside group, the MPC chose to outsource only the club's food and beverage department, which was won by Makati Skyline.

Concepcion said the MPC board voted five to four to reject CCA's offer to run it because it found the terms of the offer "unreasonable" specifically its demand for a 25-percent share of gross operating income and investment requirement on MPC of P189.36 million.

Concepcion said the board also found some of the demands made by CCA as exorbitant specifically the P6-million fee for the business plan, management fee of P550,000 a month, and its general manager would get P550,000 in monthly salary plus perks for housing, tuition, and annual vacation leave to the United Kingdom.

In contrast, Concepcion said the MPC board unanimously voted to choose Makati Skyline because it offered the best bid—MPC gets a concession fee of P12 million a year or 15 percent of sales (whichever is higher), it will invest P5 million in improvements and equipment, and concessionaire will purchase existing equipment from MPC. Concepcion said CCA would charge a 203-percent markup over food costs versus the 112-percent margin by Makati Skyline.

In a previous interview, Ascalon said the MPC board's strategy of outsourcing some of the club's services and cutting costs through streamlining the operations have ensured that the club would start earning profits by 2003.

Firm to seek ₱9.4-B payment for PEA contract rescission

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE GOVERNMENT will have to shell out as much as P9.4 billion to reimburse expenses incurred by publicly listed Cyber Bay Corp. if the Supreme Court would stick to its order to nullify a controversial joint-venture agreement with the Public Estates Authority (PEA) covering the 750-hectare Manila-Cavite coastal bay reclamation and development.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, Cyber Bay corporate secretary Ray Espinosa said that under the terms of the agreement, in the event that its subsidiary Central Bay Reclamation and Development Corp. would be prevented from completing the project, the government-controlled PEA would have to reimburse all expenses plus legal interest.

Cyber Bay also warned that it would have to fold up if the Supreme Court would not reconsider its order to rescind the joint venture, which was formerly known as the PEA-Amari deal that aimed to attract P200 billion in fresh investments for the Philippines.

"Central Bay and its project are the only assets of the company. Accordingly, the validity of the joint-venture agreement between the PEA and Central Bay and the reversal of the decision of the Supreme Court are of crucial importance to the viability and survival of the company," Espinosa said.

If the Supreme Court would not reverse its decision, Espinosa said Cyber Bay, including all of its foreign and Filipino shareholders and creditors, would "suffer tremendous and irreparable losses" which would "likely lead to the bankruptcy and eventual liquidation of the company."

The High Court issued on July 9 an order nullifying the controversial deal on three grounds: the venture was not awarded through a public bidding; it involved the sale of submerged lands, and reclaimed land, being part of the public domain, cannot be owned by private corporations.

For its part, Cyber Bay challenged the Supreme Court's ruling, citing for instance, that the joint venture did not necessarily involve the transfer of reclaimed land to Central Bay and would thus not violate the Constitution.

Also, the company said reclaimed lands in the Manila-Cavite Coastal Road and Reclamation Project (MCCRRP) were private lands held by PEA.

"Even if they initially form part of the lands of public domain, they become private lands in the hands of PEA," Espinosa said.

Moreover, Espinosa argued that public bidding was not required for the joint venture. He said the contract was a joint venture authorized by the following:

- Memorandum Order 226 which governs joint venture entered into by government-owned and -controlled corporations with private corporations;
- Department of Justice Opinion No. 079 which opined that a government corporation is not prohibited by its charter from entering into a joint venture agreement with private entities without going through a public bidding; and,
- Special laws creating the PEA and granting it express powers to negotiate joint ventures with private entities.

"Under the joint venture agreement, Central Bay must further reclaim lands surrounding the Three Islands in order that after reclamation, the Three Islands will form part of a larger mass of land connected to the MCCRRP," Espinosa said.

"Clearly, such lands will still have to be produced and such undertaking will entail, among others, the infusion by Central Bay of the needed capital and resources to cover the expenses of reclamation. Thus, Central Bay is not a buyer, but a producer and a contractor of the reclaimed land under the agreement," he said.

Central Bay will thus have to be paid in land or money for its contribution, he noted.

Espinosa noted that when the venture was declared void, Central Bay was deprived of its right to due process. But the company said it believed that the high court's decision was "erroneous" and "not in accord with relevant laws and jurisprudence."

PEA, for its part, has field a separate motion for reconsideration of the SC ruling.

"In the meantime, all project-related operations have been suspended," Espinosa said.

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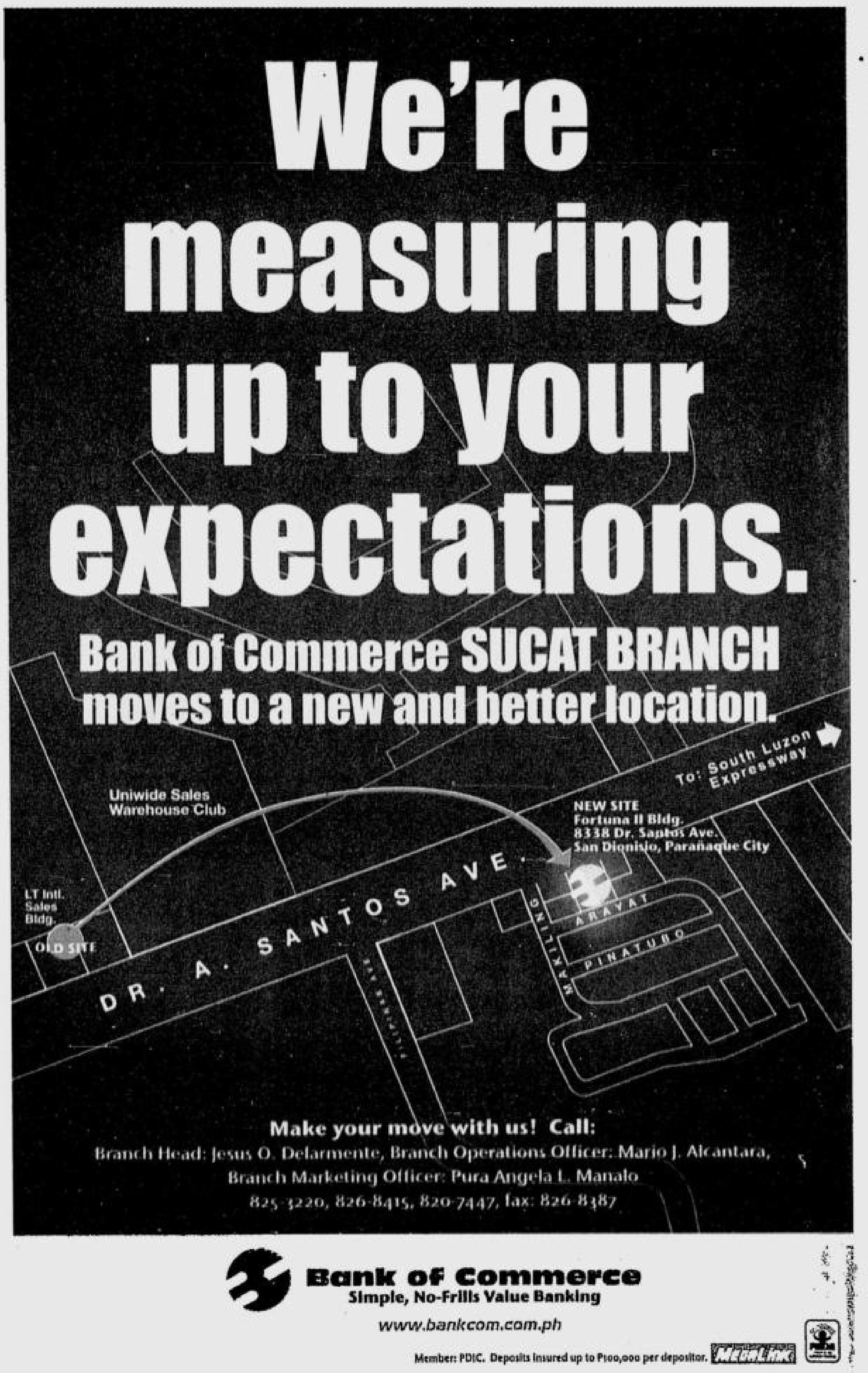

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JG Summit sees P3B in profit

THE GOKONGWEIS' JG Summit Holdings Inc. is expecting to post P2.8 billion to P3 billion in net profits this year, about 21 percent higher than last year's P2.31 billion, in the light of the projected robust contribution from its food and property interests.

In a briefing after the conglomerate's annual stockholders meeting Wednesday night, JG Summit president and chief operating officer Lance Gokongwei said consolidated revenues would likely hit P47-P49 billion compared with P44.18 billion last year.

"The main driver will be food and property but this will be neutralized by weakness in some industries such as petrochemical and textile," Gokongwei said.

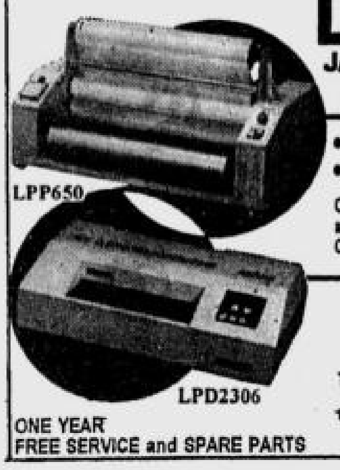
For the first half of the year, JG Summit reported P1.3 billion in net income or slightly lower than the P1.49 billion posted in the same period last year. This, however, included a P200-million non-recurring loss booked from the sale of a 20-percent stake in Toledo Power Corp.

Consolidated revenues stood at P23.4 billion during the period, 21 percent higher than the P19.3 billion in the first semester of last year.

JG Summit's snack food business Universal Robina Corp. yielded P719 million in six-month net income. This was attributed to the steady growth in its international branded food business and its aggressive marketing initiatives in the local market.

The group's branded foods, agro-industrial and commodity foods accounted for 42 percent of its business.

Its property unit Robinsons Land Corp., which accounts for 8 percent of revenues, reported P451 million in net profits. For this year, Gokongwei said RLC was expected to generate more revenues from the launch of new projects. *Doris C. Dumlao*



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THE LEADER IN THE LAMINATING FIELD

MetroPac, Benpres post losses in 6 mos.

METRO Pacific Corp. reported an unaudited consolidated net loss of P8.1 billion in the first six months of this year mainly due to its P7.2 billion in provision for probable loss in case creditors foreclose on the company's shares in Bonifacio Land Corp.

Last June, MPC's parent firm Hong Kong-based First Pacific Co. Ltd. and the Gokongwei group signed a memorandum of agreement that might lead to the foreclosure of 50.4 percent of BLC, which was used to back a $90-million loan by MPC from Larouge B.V.

MPC had also pledged another 17.2-percent equity in BLC to various creditors for loans that were now past due.

In another development, Benpres Holding Corp., the flagship holding company of the Lopez family, was able to cut its losses to P80 million in the first half of the year from P709 million in the same period last year. This was because the holding firm did not have to reflect its share in the net loss of troubled telecommunications arm Bayantel in its financial report.

Benpres, however, said that it would have to make a provision later for the remaining P5 billion worth of liabilities of Bayantel, which were guaranteed by the holding firm.

First Philippine Holdings Corp., another Lopez-owned firm, said its net income in the first semester was higher by 15 percent at P1.09 billion from P949 million in the same period last year.

The company attributed the higher income to lower interest and other expenses, and a 30-percent increase in revenues to P10.4 billion. This was despite a P3.1-billion or 73-percent increase in costs and expenses. *Elena Torrijos*

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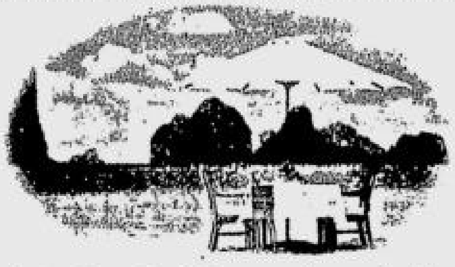

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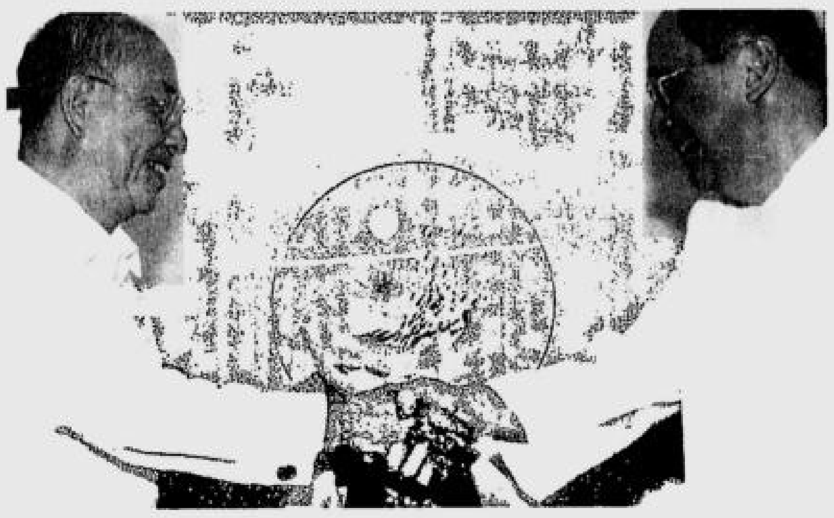

NEW DLSU BUILDING Ambassador Alfonso Yuchengco receives a plaque of appreciation from De La Salle University president Bro. Rolando Dizon during the blessing of the Don Enrique Yuchengco Bldg. at the DLSU. Below is the Don Enrique Yuchengco Hall auditorium, one of the major features of the new building.

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ATI revenues up 3% to ₱1.67B

PORT and logistics operator Asian Terminals Inc. announced that it posted more than P1.67 billion in revenues in the first half, up by almost 3 percent from the P1.62 billion it posted last year.

Consolidated net income likewise increased 13 percent to P262.6 million from P232.9 million a year ago.

ATI, which operates the South Harbor in Manila, attributed its positive financial performance to the expansion of its South Harbor Container Terminal.

The firm noted that containerized shipment at the Port of Manila went down 2.8 percent but South Harbor was able to increase the volume of the containers it handled to 300,000 twenty equivalent units (TEUs), 7.3 percent higher than last year.

Cargo throughputs at the Mariveles Grain Terminal in Bataan and the Port of Batangas also exceeded ATI's targets, the company said.

The MGT handled a total volume of 976,067 metric tons, 25 percent higher than last year's volume in the same period. Biggest contributors were wheat and soybean meal, which accounted for 84 percent of total grain shipment. *Abigail L. Ho*

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Gov't to rebid procurement system project

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday called a new tender for a P250-million government electronic procurement system after the first attempt ended in failure last month, the budget department said.

The government declared the initial bidding a failure after only one out of 17 companies which submitted tenders qualified for the project, Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin said.

She said the new round of bidding has attracted at least 29 firms, and the budget office was preparing to shorten the list later this month.

AFP

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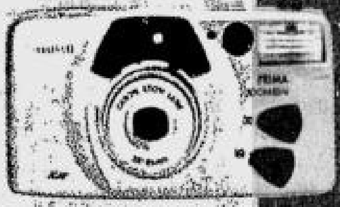

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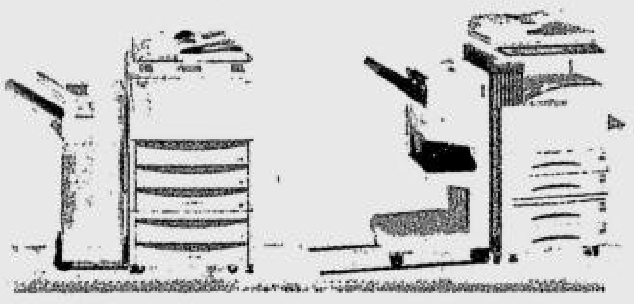

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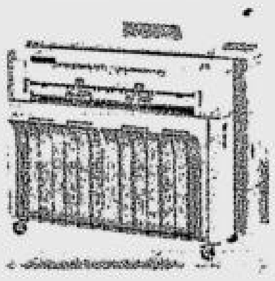

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The protocol of firing executives

LABOR MANAGEMENT FORUM

Josephus B. Jimenez

THIS is not about power. This is about how that power is to be exercised. This is not about the prerogative to dismiss. This is about the protocol of dismissal. The ethics of separation. The good manners that men in power must remember when they let go of other men and women of power.

Executives have certain basic rights, which should be respected. Businessmen and their CEOs and COOs can be imprudent at times when deciding to fire a top corporate executive, a senior manager or a top union leader. Their imprudence often results in nasty and expensive lawsuits that cost millions of pesos in damages and attorney's fees. It causes a serious damage not only to the goodwill that the corporate image has earned from years and years of hard work, but also to the overall climate of labor-management relations in the company. Reckless firing is a loss-loss proposition.

Employers' prerogative

There is no question, of course, that business owners are vested with inherent prerogatives to hire and fire people, including those in top management positions. There is no problem in hiring. The headaches are in firing. Oftentimes, these firings spring from loss of confidence arising from either gross incompetence or serious integrity issues that substantially breached the trust reposed upon responsible corporate officials. The labor laws in this jurisdiction afford enough leeway for employers to do away with the services of the incorrigibly corrupt and the notoriously inept.

However, owing to the stature of the persons sought to be fired, the employers must exercise utmost diligence that the manner by which the dismissal is effectuated must be characterized with delicate prudence and care, seeing to it that the self-esteem of the corporate executive is not unnecessarily damaged, that his reputation is cared for, that the honor of the man and his family is nurtured.

Corporate gratitude

It is enough that the guy loses his job. It is not necessary that he also lose his self-respect and the respect of the people in the business community. Those who are vested with the authority to fire executives must be conscious of the serious psychological and social implications of such a highly delicate action. It is always for the mutual benefit of both the employer firm and the top gun being fired that they should part ways as friends.

Top guns who spent the best years of their lives in the company should be handled with care, if only for the sake of some measure of gratitude for his long service and loyalty. Even if he has become lately quite unproductive and lesser in business acumen, he should be respected enough to be given what is due. If he has to go because he has become the weakest link in the chain of command, then he should be allowed a graceful exit. He should be given a *despedida* and sent off with a hefty package with which he should nurse his wounded ego.

Nurture self-esteem

For an old guard always goes with wounds in his corporate self-esteem. If his retirement was made premature due to the owners' decision to let him go, that man will always suffer from an anguish that he alone could feel in moments of loneliness. Some guys often opt to commit suicide, others kill themselves softly by drugs or alcohol, or ruin their lives through gambling or illicit sex and philandering.

The best option is to nurture the guy's self-esteem. The message has to be conveyed to him very discreetly by the most senior of the owners' family. He should be talked to in a most diplomatic and amicable manner. His side should be heard. He should be allowed to say his piece and he should be listened to.

Ineptitude or dishonesty

If his deficiencies were merely products of ineptitude and not dishonesty, the owners should be compassionate to him in recognition of past laurels and fidelity. If his problem involves integrity issues, he should be discreetly confronted with clear and substantial evidence. And then, he should be allowed to resign. No undue publicity should be given to his case. If possible, he should be the one to announce his successor.

In corporate functions immediately after his resignation or retirement, he and his spouse should be invited as special guest. He should be allowed to rub elbows with his friends and share a toast with his colleagues. It is extremely cruel to erase him from memory just like that. Indeed, firing an executive is both a science and an art. There is a delicate balance between propriety and making a mess out of it.

Constructive dismissal

There are many different ways to commit a serious blunder in firing top guns. The law books have a term for it, constructive dismissal. Firms that play games with the careers of executives by demoting them or diminishing their salaries, by easing them out through schemes and machinations, or by putting them in inhumane conditions are asking for trouble.

I have a compilation of cases involving executive damage suits. The Supreme Court condemns unscrupulous and oppressive CEOs and COOs who inflict cruel and unusual punishment to their executives and managers. Thus, these guys who are drunk with power are better counseled to go slow in their rampage on the careers and lives of men.

Moral damages

Sooner, they will pay dearly for the mental anguish, the serious anxieties, the wounded feelings, social humiliations and utmost disillusionment of executives and managers, who are only victims of corporate politics and intrigues. The law has a remedy for the victim and a penalty for the guilty.

Of course, no one can compel a company to nurture the undesirable executive. The firm is not a welfare institution. What we are saying here is that the process of termination should neither unnecessarily provoke a damage suit nor lead one to murder or suicide. What is involved here is not only a job but also the honor of highly reputable professionals and businessmen.

So there you are. Employers, better be good or at least, be careful.

PSE board defers decision on trading schedule change

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINE Stock Exchange board has deferred any change in its trading hours until after the implementation of an international road show to attract foreign investors next month.

In an interview on late Wednesday after the exchange's board meeting, PSE president Ernest Leung said the board saw no need to immediately change the trading hours, although it was appraised of the results of a recent survey on the preferences of member brokers.

"We felt that at this point in time, we must keep the current schedule," Leung said.

The survey indicated that 39 percent or 45 member brokers favored a return to half-day trading while 36.8 percent or 42 respondents favored an afternoon trading from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. after the morning session. Twenty-seven brokers or 14.9 percent of the respondents abstained.

This means that until the PSE board discusses again the planned change in trading hours next month, the local bourse will still trade from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon for the morning session to be followed by an afternoon session from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

But Leung said the PSE would resume discussions on the proposed changes in trading hours after a road show in Hong Kong and Singapore, which were scheduled to start on Sept. 9.

A group led by foreign brokers is lobbying for longer afternoon trading hours, arguing that a 2-4 p.m. slot would be needed to attract the interest of European investors.

Leung said the planned road show was in line with the government's prodding for the PSE to stimulate investor interest among foreign and local investors.

In the meantime, the group of five PSE directors led by former PSE chair Robert Coyiuto again boycotted the PSE board meeting last Wednesday over a dispute with other exchange officials.

DOE extends deadline for Shell, Caltex IPO

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE ENERGY department has agreed to give Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. and Caltex (Philippines) Inc. more time to offer their shares to the public.

Energy Secretary Vincent Perez Jr. said the government recently agreed on a "go forward" plan with Shell and Caltex, which means that the DOE would monitor the efforts of the two multinational companies in preparing for their initial public offering.

The "go forward" scheme replaced the earlier plan of the DOE to force Shell and Caltex to pursue their IPOs by the end of the year since they have returned to profitability after years of losses.

Under the agreement, Perez said the two oil firms should take immediate steps to secure the approval of the IPO from the board of directors and submit financial reports to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"These steps would show their seriousness and good faith in preparing for an IPO," Perez said.

Last month, Perez said the DOE was preparing a circular that would set a deadline for the two firm's public listing and would lay down penalties if they failed.

He said the proposed penalties would be similar to those that the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas imposed on commercial banks that have yet to go public.

Shell and Caltex were supposed to go public as early as February 2001 as required under the Oil Industry Deregulation Law, but the provision could not be enforced after the justice department ruled that the deadline was "only directory and not executory."

The DOJ, however, required Shell and Caltex to submit quarterly reports on their financial conditions and the progress of their IPO plans.

Shell spokesperson Roberto Kanapi said in an earlier interview that Shell complied with all government requirements including the submission of quarterly reports.

Meanwhile, Caltex Philippines said it would continue to coordinate with the DOE on their IPO plans.

MWSS to secure $15-M loan to pay Maynilad's creditors

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE METROPOLITAN Waterworks and Sewerage System is set to secure a $15-million loan from the Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. to pay for part of the unpaid loans of private concessionaire Maynilad Water Services Inc. of the Lopez group.

Acting MWSS finance chief Estrellito Polloso said in an interview that Keppel Monte Investment Co. is arranging the loan package and it expects to receive the loan proceeds by the end of the month.

The loan would be used to pay off part of Maynilad's outstanding loans with creditors that include the Asian Development Bank and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation.

MWSS has assumed Maynilad's P3.5-billion debt obligation after Maynilad defaulted on the payment of its concession fees with the government agency.

Polloso said MWSS actually needed $29 million to settle immediate obligations but the finance department only allowed a loan ceiling of $15 million. This is on top of a $100-million loan secured from Deutsche Bank earlier this month to pay Maynilad's maturing obligations and operating costs.

Maynilad has failed to pay its concession fees since March last year, claiming that it has yet to finalize a $300-million loan package from a syndicate of foreign commercial banks. The cash-strapped firm has promised to pay back MWSS as soon as the loans are approved.

Maynilad is one of two private groups that took over the east and west water distribution zones when these were privatized in 1997. The other is Manila Water Co. of the Ayala group.

DISCLOSURES

CHINATRUST Commercial Banking Corp. clarified that a decision has not been made on whether to buy a mortgage portfolio of another bank as it found the indicative price too high.

* * *

MEGAWORLD Corp. reported an unaudited consolidated net income of P268.8 million for the first six months of the year.

* * *

AYALA Land Inc. confirmed reports that it was planning to sell some of its non-core assets like its Boracay property as well as its indirect equity holdings in the Metro Railway Transit Corp.

* * *

ELECTED directors of **JG Summit Holdings Inc.** were John Gokongwei Jr., James Go, Johnson Robert Go Sr., Lance Gokongwei, Lily Ngochua, Patrick Henry Go, Ignacio Gotao, Gabriel Singson, Wilfrido Tecson, Ricardo Romulo and Cornelio Peralta.

* * *

VITARICH Corp. reported an unaudited consolidated net loss of P339.9 million for the first half of the year.

* * *

SAN Miguel Properties Inc. announced the resignation of Francisco Eizmendi Jr. as director of the company. Gerry Kilayko was elected to replace him. Also, the company approved its merger with HOC Realty Inc. with SMPI as the surviving company. Francis Jardeleza was designated compliance officer following the approval of the company's manual of corporate governance.

* * *

REPUBLIC Cement Corp.'s subsidiary **Mindanao Portland Cement Corp.** amended its by-laws by reducing the number of its directors from nine to five.

* * *

PHILIPPINE Realty and Holdings Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Aug. 30, 9:30 a.m. at the G/F PSEC Auditorium, Philippine Stock Exchange Centre, Pasig City.

* * *

UNAUDITED net income of **Digital Telecommunications Philippines Inc.** for the first half of 2002 reached P65.7 million. ***Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research***

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Thursday, August 15, 2002)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	15.5	15.75	15.5	15.75	143,400
Bank of the Phil. Islands	45.5	45.5	44.5	45.5	170,400
Citystate Savings Bank	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	2,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	29.5	29.5	28	28	227,900
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	36	36	36	36	87,200
Philippine National Bank	31	31	31	31	700
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	5,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	18.75	18.75	18.5	18.5	38,900
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16	189,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	925	925	925	925	2,870
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	21.5	21.5	21.25	21.5	23,400
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	0.55	0.57	0.55	0.56	2,490,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	495	495	495	495	3,430
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.031	0.031	0.031	0.031	400,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	100,000
Piltel	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.28	1,710,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	297.5	297.5	295	297.5	13,870
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.012	0.012	0.011	0.012	39,000,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	18.75	18.75	18.75	18.75	2,100
Manila Electric Co. B	28.5	28.5	28.5	28.5	27,900
Petron Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.66	1.68	731,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.46	2.48	2.46	2.48	288,000
Negros Navigation Co. Inc.	0.66	0.67	0.66	0.67	380,000
William, Gothong & Aboitiz	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.45	140,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.22	2.22	2.22	2.22	4,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.5	13.5	13.25	13.25	183,000
Liberty Flour Mills Inc.	17	17	17	17	27,000
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	32	32.5	32	32.5	19,600
RFM Corp.	0.78	0.8	0.78	0.8	100,000
San Miguel Corp. A	48.5	49	48.5	49	704,200
San Miguel Corp. B	54	54	54	54	14,400
Universal Robina Corp.	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	1,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	970,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.3	651,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.28	122,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	2.55	2.55	2.5	2.5	30,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.065	0.07	0.065	0.07	200,000
First Phil. Hldgs. Corp.	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	708,100
Global Equities Inc.	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	600,000
House of Investments Inc.	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	10,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	50,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61	500,000
Magnum Holdings Inc.	1	1	1	1	200,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	10,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.25	760,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	30,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.0625	0.0625	0.0625	0.0625	100,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	40,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	50,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	230,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	21.75	21.75	21.5	21.5	467,500
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10	10	10	10	1,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.1	15,471,000
Araneta Properties Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	100,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	520,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.16	0.17	0.16	0.17	800,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	1,000,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.98	1.98	1.92	1.94	2,979,000
Highlands Prime Inc.	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	40,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.15	210,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6	6	5.9	6	5,104,000
MINING					
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.165	0.165	0.165	0.165	20,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	2,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	20,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	1,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	0.0028	10,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	60,000
Pacifica	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	500,000
South China Resources Inc.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	480,000

CURRENCIES

Aug. 15, 2002 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency In US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.020825	1.000000	51.7560
Japan	Yen	0.008700	0.008523	0.4411
United Kingdom	Pound	0.157033	0.153830	7.9616
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.141085	0.138207	7.1530
Switzerland	Franc	0.683786	0.669837	34.6681
Canada	Dollar	0.653077	0.639754	33.1111
Singapore	Dollar	0.584029	0.572115	29.6104
Australia	Dollar	0.547947	0.536769	27.7810
Bahrain	Dinar	2.707902	2.652661	137.2911
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.272220	0.266667	13.8016
Brunei	Dollar	0.579421	0.567601	29.3768
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000116	0.000114	0.0059
Thailand	Baht	0.024393	0.023895	1.2367
UAE	Dirham	0.277957	0.272287	14.0925
Korea	Won	0.000868	0.000850	0.0440
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.979600	50.7002
Argentina	Real	0.281996	0.276243	14.2972
Brazil	Real	0.319008	0.312500	16.1738
Denmark	Kroner	0.134664	0.131917	6.8275
India	Rupee	0.021035	0.020606	1.0665
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.268674	0.263193	13.6218
Mexico	New Peso	0.102575	0.100482	5.2005
New Zealand	Dollar	0.471621	0.462000	23.9113
Norway	Kroner	0.124443	0.131700	6.8163
Pakistan	Rupee	0.017214	0.016863	0.8728
South Africa	Rand	0.097372	0.095386	4.9368
Sweden	Kroner	0.108477	0.106264	5.4998
Syria	Pound	0.019860	0.019455	1.0069
Taiwan	NT Dollar	0.030482	0.029860	1.5454
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000742	0.000727	0.0376

Gov't plans $3B . . .

From page B1

Camacho acknowledged that public debt has risen to about 67 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP) and that about 28 percent of the proposed 2003 budget would go to debt servicing.

But he said, "the public debt as an issue is only relevant as a function of the size of the economy."

"You can have a bigger deficit if you have a bigger economy," Camacho said, stressing that it was important for the government to implement economic reforms that would spur growth.

Rejecting comparisons with debt-pressed Latin American countries, Camacho said debt would only be a problem "if we don't do anything about it, if it's static."

"This government has much more fiscal discipline in its blood and its system to be able to manage that," Camacho said, adding the government had a "medium-term management plan" to bring down the debt-to-GDP ratio.

He did not give any targets, but said the best way to deal with the problem was to achieve faster growth.

UK firm eyes . . .

From page B1

enough for commercial production.

Government data showed that one out of four prospects drilled in the area contained natural gas.

Last month, the energy department announced that Japan Petroleum Exploration Co. (Japex) signed GSEC No. 102 to search for oil and gas in the Visayan petroleum basin.

Energy Secretary Vincent Perez Jr. said: "The entry of another foreign firm indeed boosts our upstream exploration initiatives. This only proves the great potential of the Philippines as an investment site in the oil and gas sectors."

Perez said GSEC 102 gives Japex 18 months to conduct geophysical surveying activities at a projected cost of P10 million.

The contract would be extended for another 18 months if Japex decided to drill an exploratory well that would cost about P150 million.

Fujitsu to cut 2,100 jobs in Japan

TOKYO—Japanese computer titan Fujitsu Ltd. said Thursday that it would cut 2,100 jobs, or 1.2 percent of its work force, at four factories to stem billowing losses in a generous voluntary retirement scheme.

Employees who opt to leave the troubled company could receive up to 40 months in additional salary on top of normal benefits.

"The adjustment in our human resources is part of our strategy to deal with the slumped market conditions," said a Fujitsu spokesperson, who declined to be named.

The retirement program attracted 2,100 applicants between the end of July through to last week, she said. It was offered to staff at three Fujitsu plants that make printed circuit boards and one which produces electronics parts.

It was unclear how much the restructuring would cost, but Fujitsu would give workers eight to 40 months severance pay in addition to normal retirement benefits, spokespeople said.

"It depends on the individual," said a second spokesperson Yuri Momomoto.

Analysts welcomed the decision and expected more jobs to go in future.

"They said they would work more on cutting fixed costs, so this is consistent with what they have talked to the market about," said Ikuo Matsuhashi, semiconductor analyst at Goldman Sachs.

The average annual salary of employees applying for the scheme would be 6 to 7 million yen so the move would only have a limited impact on expenditure, but it was a step in the right direction, he said.

The added bonus of 40 month's salary, however was "a bit weird," noted Matsuhashi.

"It is much higher than recent standards which are a maximum of two years."

Japan's technology leaders have slashed thousands of jobs over the past year as they tightened their belts to beat a slump in demand for technology after the IT bubble burst in 2000.

Matsuhashi predicted firms such as Hitachi Ltd., Mitsubishi Electric Corp., Toshiba Corp. and NEC Corp. would be forced to shed more staff as well.

Fujitsu should now focus on consolidating its business arms, possibly by shaking up an optical network equipment division in the United States, he said. *AFP*

HELP NEEDED

United may file for bankruptcy

CHICAGO—United Airlines, the No. 2 US carrier, said Wednesday that it may file for bankruptcy this fall if it cannot dramatically cut costs, its first such admission since losing record amounts of money after the Sept. 11 attacks.

United said in a regulatory filing that it plans to refile an application with the Air Transportation Stabilization Board for $1.8 billion in federal loan guarantees, which will include a new business model.

But the carrier said there can be no assurances it will win such backing for private sector loans, even if it does reach cost-cutting deals with various groups.

The airline has given itself 30 days to cut the deals. So far, only pilots and salaried and management workers have agreed to pay cuts.

Shares of United Airlines parent UAL Corp., pummeled all year, plunged further Wednesday.

They fell to $1.87 on Instinet after the airline said it might file for bankruptcy. The shares had closed at $2.45 on the New York Stock Exchange.

In October 1997, when the US economy was booming, the shares traded at more than $100.

United's bankruptcy warning was just the latest bad news in the aviation industry this week.

Sunday, US Airways Group Inc. filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection as a historic downturn in US aviation continues to unfold. US Airways, based in Arlington, Virginia, flies a heavy East Coast schedule.

AMR Corp.'s American Airlines of Dallas/Fort Worth on Tuesday said it would shrink itself, lay off 7 percent of its work force and implement structural changes to try to bring back profits.

Major US airlines have lost more than $10 billion since the Sept. 11 attacks decimated air travel and cheap fares proliferated. Most big carriers face significant losses this year as well.

United, based in Elk Grove Village, Illinois, asked the ATSB earlier this summer to back $1.8 billion in loans, as it faces a fourth-quarter debt payment of nearly $1 billion. It has already received $782 million in direct cash aid as part of the landmark bailout package passed after the attacks.

So far, no official word has emerged from Washington on the loan guarantee request, but the buzz is not encouraging.

A source in Washington familiar with the loan guarantee process says the board is looking for "vigorous and substantial" efficiencies from United. *Reuters*

Corporate America floods SEC with oaths

WASHINGTON—The top brass of hundreds of America's biggest companies swore by their financial results on Wednesday under a government order meant to reassure investors, but a handful of mid-sized companies, many in the troubled energy trading sector, came up short.

As Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill called business honesty "the new patriotism," personal oaths from chief executives and chief financial officers flooded the US Securities and Exchange Commission, along with a few results restatements.

As the filings poured in, stocks soared, pushing the Standard & Poor's 500 index up 4 percent to its highest level in a month as reassurances of the accuracy of past results eased investor fears of corporate skullduggery.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 260 points, or 3 percent, at 8,743.31 points.

Of the 942 companies covered by the SEC's unprecedented, one-time order requiring CEO and CFO certifications of results, 695 companies had to comply by the close of business on Wednesday. Another 247 companies will file later.

Ninety minutes after the SEC's 5:30 p.m. EDT (2130 GMT) cutoff, officers of 629 of the 695 companies due to certify on Wednesday had done so, according to a Reuters analysis of SEC website data, the online Edgar-Online financial filing service, a private investor data service and company reports.

Several companies' filing status remained unclear. Although markets were expected to punish companies not in compliance on Thursday, investors were seen taking comfort from Wednesday's high compliance rate, especially among larger corporations.

"It soothes investors' fears a little bit—until the next debacle comes," said Keith Janecek, vice president of trading at Legg Mason Wood Walker. *Reuters*

AOL Time Warner may have overstated revenue

NEW YORK—AOL Time Warner Inc.'s top executives vouched for the accuracy and completeness of the media giant's results but disclosed on Wednesday its America Online unit may have overstated revenue, three weeks after federal probes were launched into AOL's accounting practices.

The company said information gleaned in the last 10 days led it to conclude that payment from third parties may have been inappropriately recognized as advertising and commerce revenue for three deals totaling about $49 million over six quarters. AOL also said it had begun an internal review.

Up to this point, AOL Time Warner had maintained its accounting for the deals that were questioned in a series of Washington Post articles last month were appropriate, even after the US Securities and Exchange Commission and Department of Justice began inquiries into AOL.

"The positive is they certified their results. The negative is they admitted things that they previously said were proper," said Kaufman Bros. analyst Paul Kim.

Despite the disclosure, the company went ahead and certified its financial statements, joining executives from nearly 1,000 of the nation's top companies trying to comply with a new SEC rule aimed at rebuilding investor confidence.

The disclosure came on the same day AOL Time Warner confirmed its top dealmaker David Colburn has left the company, only weeks after he relinquished responsibilities for day-to-day review and approval of AOL's deals.

Colburn, head of business development and an AOL Time Warner executive vice president, was one of the key architects for the Internet giant's ad and commerce pacts during the dot-com heyday of 2001 and 2001—the period the Washington Post raised questions about in its articles.

A spokesperson declined to comment further on the nature of the brash and aggressive AOL veteran's departure.

The Washington Post had questioned whether AOL had boosted revenue with unconventional deals with companies like eBay, PurchasePro.com Inc. and Homestore Inc. The deals the Washington Post questioned totaled about $270 million—a fraction of AOL's total revenue.

An AOL Time Warner spokesperson declined to disclose which deals were at issue after the company's review.

PurchasePro and eBay spokespersons also declined to comment on whether they were the parties in the deals at question. A Homestore official was not immediately available.

Chief Executive Richard Parsons said in a memo to employees obtained by Reuters that the company hoped to complete an internal review of the accounting of some of AOL's online ad and e-commerce deals by the end of the third quarter.

"I consider the accuracy of AOL Time Warner's financial reporting to be one of my most responsibilities and I am committed to giving investors accurate and transparent information about the company," Parsons said. *Reuters*

Australia to host meeting of WTO trade ministers

AUSTRALIA will host a major meeting of trade ministers in November in a bid to push along the latest round of global trade negotiations, Trade Minister Mark Vaile announced on Thursday.

Vaile said about 25 ministers from countries including the United States, European Union, Japan and Singapore would attend the meeting in Sydney on Nov. 14 and 15.

The gathering will come exactly a year after ministers from the 144-nation World Trade Organization (WTO) met in Doha to launch a new round of negotiations to lower global trade barriers.

Vaile said the meeting would be "critical" for addressing a number of sticky issues that have emerged ahead of the next full meeting of the Geneva-based WTO in Cancun, Mexico, in September 2003.

The meeting will include a "cross-section (of nations) so that all interest groups within the WTO have their interests represented around a table," he said.

"Where there's been some sticky issues this year in terms of timeframes for modalities, we need ministers to give clear instructions to the director general and the bureaucracy in Geneva on what we expect to happen," he said.

Two similar "mini-ministerial" meetings held in the lead up to the Doha conference were credited with helping pave the way for the new round of global trade talks to get underway.

A key area of concern for Australia and other big farming nations has been the issue of agricultural subsidies in the United States and the European Union—practices which have undermined the Doha negotiations.

A US decision to impose tariffs on steel imports to protect its ailing industry has also angered trade partners. Australia has since negotiated bilateral exemptions from the tariffs, a move which in turn upset the EU.

Trade ministry officials said the incoming WTO chief, Supachai Panichpakdi of Thailand, is likely to attend the Sydney meeting, and Vaile said representatives from poorer African nations such as Senegal and Lesotho would also participate.

Vaile said he had discussed his plans for the November gathering here with Mexican Economy Minister Luis Derbez, who will chair next year's WTO negotiations in Cancun. *AFP*

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HOW TO JOIN:

1. Write name, age, signature, address and phone number on a piece of paper.
Note: Entries with incomplete info will be disqualified

2. Enclose in an envelope with any of the ff. Quaker packs:
a. (2) packs Quaker Oatmeal Quick Cooking or Instant 200g foil
b. (1) pack Quaker Oatmeal Quick Cooking or Instant 400g foil
c. (1) pack Quaker Oatmeal Quick Cooking or Instant 800g foil
d. (1) Quaker Cereal Beverage polybag/carton
e. (1) Quaker Oatmeal Porridge carton

3. Send / Mail entries to:

Quaker Oats Asia, Inc c/o
The Partnership Network, Inc.
Unit 711
IPI Buendia Tower
Sen. Gil Puyat, Pasay City
Or drop entries in Quaker Mom's Allowance drop boxes in selected supermarkets

4. Promotion Period: July 15 to Oct. 12, 2002

5. Raffle Draws:

Draws	Deadline for Entries	Raffle Draw
1st Draw	Aug. 10	Aug. 17
2nd Draw	Sep. 7	Sep. 14
Grand Draw	Oct. 12	Oct. 19

6. Raffle Prizes:
a. 1st Preliminary Draw - Ten (10) lucky Moms (3 from GMA, 2 from Luzon, 3 from Visayas and 2 from Mindanao) will receive P10,000.00 cash allowance per month for 3 months. Aside from the allowances, Fifty (50) Quaker gift packs will be given away.

b. 2nd Preliminary Draw - Ten (10) lucky Moms (3 from GMA, 2 from Luzon, 3 from Visayas and 2 from Mindanao) will receive P10,000.00 cash allowance per month for 3 months. Aside from the allowances, Fifty (50) Quaker gift packs will be given away.

c. Grand Draw - Ten (10) lucky Moms (3 from GMA, 2 from Luzon, 3 from Visayas and 2 from Mindanao) will receive P20,000.00 cash allowance per month for 3 months. Aside from the allowances, One Hundred (100) Quaker gift packs will be given away.

7. Each entry can only win once per draw. If an entry is drawn more than once, participants automatically win the prize with the higher value. Another entry will be re-drawn for the prize with the lower value.

8. All non-winning entries in the preliminary draws will be included in the grand raffle draw.

9. All winning entries will be drawn and validated by representatives of Quaker Oats Asia, Inc, its Advertising/Promo Agency and BFAD.

10. Winners will be notified thru registered mail.

11. Prizes not claimed within sixty (60) days from date of notification letter, will be forfeited, with prior approval of BFAD.

12. Winners must present the registered mail sent to them by Quaker Oats Asia, Inc. together with two (2) legally acceptable evidences of identification.

13. Employees of Quaker Oats Asia, Inc., their affiliates, distributors, advertising and promotional agents, BFAD representatives, as well as their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity are not qualified to join this promotion.

DOH-BFAD # 0538S.2002

Was Sneezy suffering from a cold, or was it Allergic Rhinitis?

AT THE FIRST sight of Snow White, Sneezy went into a violent sneezing fit. Could it have been a reaction to Snow White's perfume, the smell of her hair, whatever? We'll never know for sure. But what we're sure about is that you can't be named Sneezy, unless you suffer sneezing fits regularly, even everyday—as if it were already part of your daily routine.

If only Sneezy had gone to the doctor, he would have found out that his frequent sneezing was no ordinary cold. Accompanied by a runny or clogged nose, and watery, itchy eyes, his daily regimen of achoos in succession could have been diagnosed as Allergic Rhinitis.

Nasal allergy or Allergic Rhinitis is no dwarf of a problem. It is a very common condition that afflicts many Filipinos. An allergy—or allergic reaction—is an overreaction of your body to certain substances (known as allergens) such as pollution, house dust, animal dander, mold and pollen. When you inhale these allergens in the air, your body releases histamines that trigger the allergic symptoms. Rhinitis refers to a swollen or inflamed nose or nasal membranes. And a person who suffers from Allergic Rhinitis is sure to suffer from nasal symptoms such as sneezing, congestion, an itchy, runny nose, and non-nasal symptoms such as an itchy or sore throat and itchy, watery eyes.

Nasal allergy can be classified into two types—seasonal and perennial Allergic Rhinitis. Seasonal Allergic Rhinitis is triggered by the presence of allergens in the air during certain seasons. On the other hand, perennial Allergic Rhinitis is a year-round type of nasal allergy.

One approach in controlling allergies is to avoid the allergen that triggers it. Reducing your exposure to the allergen is perhaps the most important way of preventing an allergy attack. But of course, it is virtually impossible to avoid some allergens like pollution, dust and pollens. Sometimes, even after avoiding them, you may still suffer from allergy symptoms.

Better take the surefire allergy buster Benadryl (diphenydramine HCI) anti-allergy capsule—proven 54 percent more effective than the leading brand in relieving your worst nasal allergy symptoms. Benadryl anti-allergy capsule is the number one OTC anti-allergy remedy in the United States. Benadryl 25 mg anti-allergy capsule is a tried and tested brand for 47 years is now available over-the-counter in the Philippines.

So, the next time you suffer an allergy attack, go for the more effective relief.

GMA WITH PFRD AWARDS COMMITTEE

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo poses with the Philippine Foundation for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled Inc. (PFRD) of the Apolinario Mabini Committee. The awarding rites were held July 23 at Heroes Hall, Malacanang Palace. The awards committee was headed by Gina de Venecia (seated, third from left). Seated, from left, are the officers and director of PFRD Ma. Amelita Villarosa, Milagros Drilon, Manuel Agcaoili, Lovely Romulo and Zeny Tanada, Villa de Guia and Mabel Abano (standing). Second row, standing from left are members of the Congressional Spouses Foundation Inc. (CSFI) Baby Chatto, Judith Cajes, Marina Clarete, Nancy Almario, Mary Tulagan, Betti Espinosa, Carmen Dadivas, Beth Javier, Betty Nantes, Divina Jaraula, Neonita Real, Josefa Puentevella, Shirley Plaza, Adelma Gunigundo, Jeannie Sandoval, Estrelita Hizon and Berlinda Olano. Standing, third row from left are Julie Ann Unico, Victoria Ablan, Didi Cagas, Bebet Nograles, Lita Villareal, Nona Lobregat, Georgia Remulla, Naida Angping, Thelma Dumpit, Becky Domogan, Ace Chungalao, Baby Yapha and Kathy Santiago.

BITS Clips

FR, My Home features parenting workshops

ON AUG. 17, at 9 a.m. Family Reader and My Home magazines invite parents to the Clermont Function Room at Discovery Suites in Ortigas, Pasig City for another round of parenting workshops dubbed "Practical Magic." Shape up your financial savvy with home management guidelines on daily menu planning, domestic help and yaya concerns, and bills payments. Get cool business ideas and tips, too, from the entrepreneurial experts. Victoria Munsayac of Blue Cross Insurance will be discussing practical ways to take care of your family's health. Smooth Parenting Café is co-presented by Earth+Style Corp. and Citibank, in cooperation with Discovery Suites. For inquiries, call Sherilyn Dizon at 631-2859 or 633-4785. Both titles are published by Mega Magazines and Publications Inc. (MMPI).

Performance evaluation seminar

Performance evaluation has been conducted before major decisions affecting the operational plans and budgets of organizations are developed and important personnel actions are made. It is, therefore, essential for an organization to continually evolve and maintain a relevant, reliable and valid system of evaluating performance. In line with this, the Corporate Center for Professional Enhancement (631-3238, 631-5105, e-mail plrc@compass.com.ph) will offer a whole-day seminar on Performance Evaluation and Reporting System on Aug. 17 starting at 8:30 a.m. at the Heritage Hotel Manila, Roxas Boulevard corner Edsa, Pasay City. The primary aim is to teach participants the principles and techniques of performance evaluation in a working environment from the organizational and the individual employee perspective.

3-day sale at Riverbanks

ALL SHOPPERS are in for a treat as Riverbanks Mall holds its 3-day Rainy Days Sale from Aug. 16 to 18. Exciting discounts will be offered by Save More Supermarket, Off-Price Department Store, Merriam-Webster Bookstore, Off-Price Surplus Shop, Nike Outlet Store, Fusion, Abenson, Handyman, Fashion Forum, Green Gallery, ASL Audio Electronics, Sapatusan, Jaypers, Save-on-Surplus, and Characters Unlimited. Highlighting the sale is the live appearance of the cast of Star Cinema's newest youth-oriented movie "Jologs" led by Michelle Bayle, Julia Clarete, Baron Geisler and Dominic Ochoa on Aug. 17, 5 p.m. at Riverbanks Mall's Stage Area. The show is open to the public.

PSBank's Megamillion Challenge gives away P8 million in cash

PSBank, backed by the strength of the Metrobank Group, recently launched its latest and biggest promo, the Megamillion Challenge. PSBank is giving away P1 million in cash, tax-free, each month and P3 million in cash, tax-free, in the grand draw, or as much as P8 million.

It's easy to join. A depositor (existing or new) with a minimum deposit or average daily balance of P10,000 within a 30-day cycle gets one raffle number. For US Dollar accounts, a minimum ADB of US$500 earns for a depositor two raffle numbers. For every incremental increase in deposits, the more chances of winning.

What's more, if a depositor doesn't win in a certain monthly draw, he or she still has a crack at being a millionaire in the next draw. Non-winning raffle numbers are voided after each draw and a new set of raffle numbers are assigned to qualified depositors. That adds up to six chances of winning.

Promo period started July 1 and ends at the close of banking hours on Dec. 31 and is valid in all areas nationwide served by PSBank's 103 branches.

So, if you're thinking of spending for that vacation, put that plan on hold. Open an account or increase your deposits with PSBank, and who knows, you might be the next lucky millionaire. You'll not only be able to upgrade your airline seat for that cherished vacation trip, or shop till you drop with your fat pocket money, but have a lot of extra cash for your other needs as well.

For further inquiries, call 885-8208.

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PAINTING SESSION

THE AQUARELLISTS' WORKS

'Kulay ng Buhay', a collection of new watercolor works by The Aquarellists, can be viewed until Aug. 22 at the SSS Gallery, 2nd floor of SSS Building, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City. The Aquarellists is a group of artists that promote the art of watercolor painting. Watercolor's characteristic luminous delicacy and translucent brilliance are evident in the group's vibrant landscapes, still life and figurative paintings. Participating artists include Vic Bachoco, Alon de Guzman, Cesar del Mundo, Robert Deniega, Bert Duldulao, Raquel Faustinorio, Alona Galeria, Rose 'Naning' Gavin, Bong Gojar, Domeng Labordo, Nik Masangkay Jr., Babes Molata, Ernie Patricio, Erwin Sabio, Irene Sumang, Bong Sunga, Romeo Vicencio and 11-year-old Mary Rose Gavin as guest artist.

MCU-FDT FOUNDATION 55 YEAR

The MCU-FDT Medical Foundation celebrated its 55th Foundation Day with a benefit concert featuring the country's top band Freestyle. Fresh from a series of successful performances in the United States, Freestyle performed at the MCU Gymnasium July 26. Proceeds of the concert went to the various ongoing charity projects of the Medical Foundation. Shown (seated, from right) are Regta Pichay MD, chair, 55th Foundation Day, Ma. Lita Britanico MD, dean, MCU College of Medicine, Luningning Estanislao, EVP, MCU, Antonia G. Cruz-Basa MD, ways and means, Raquel So-Sayo MD, medical director, MCU Hospital. Standing and flanked by MCU medical students are (second and third from right) Marie Tanchoco MD, physical arrangements and Lilybeth Tanchoco MD, concert chair.

PHILIPPINES FOUNDATION, IN
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TOYOTA UPGRADES GCST CAPABILITY

Toyota Motor Philippines Foundation Inc. turned over to Guzman College of Science and Technology a donation package consisting of a 2C-Diesel Engine Simulator, a Pressure Gauge Set, a Diesel Engine Cutaway, an A131L Transaxle, and accompanying wall charts, in simple ceremonies held at the Toyota Service Training Center in Paranaque City July 23. This fifth donation is intended to further upgrade GCST's instructional capability under the Joint Technical Education Program, which the two institutions signed in 1991. Shown, from left, is Angelito M. Villanueva, president of Toyota Motor Philippines Foundation, Nobuharu Tabata, president of Toyota Motor Philippines, Bonier de Guzman, president of Guzman College of Science and Technology, Antonio Taguba, executive director of the GCST auto-diesel department (partly hidden) and Gen. Angel Kanapi, TMP vice president and executive officer.

Republic of the Philippines
CAGAYAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Carig, Tuguegarao City 3500

INVITATION TO BID

The *Cagayan State University at Lal-lo* is presently looking for partners to lease and develop its land grants which have been found and tested to be suitable for the following:

1. Five Hundred (500) hectares for upland crops
2. Three Hundred (300) hectares for coffee and orchard

List of requirements to be submitted:

1. Letter of Intent/Company Profile
2. SEC Registration
3. Business License
4. List of Clients
5. ITR (last 2 years)
6. Financial Statement
7. Location Map

Bid Forms will be available to accredited proponents.

All interested bidders must submit their accreditation documents on or before **31 August 2002** to:

DR. ELEUTERIO C. DE LEON
Officer-In-Charge, Office of the President
Cagayan State University
Carig, Tuguegarao City 3500
Telefax: (078) 844-4119, (078) 846-2997

(PDI -- Aug. 16 & 18, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
CENTER FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT NO. IV
DR. JOSE N. RODRIGUEZ MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
Tala, Caloocan City

August 5, 2002

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital invites responsible and duly accredited suppliers from DOH/RHO 4 to pre-qualify and bid for the supply of the following items

A. GROCERY PRODUCTS
B. POULTRY AND EGGS
C. FRUITS AND VEGETABLES
D. FISH AND OTHER SEA FOODS
E. BAKERY PRODUCTS

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES:

Issuance of Bid Documents	August 20 to 27, 2002 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Pre-Bid Conference	August 20, 2002 9:00 AM
Submission and Opening of Bids	August 27, 2002 9:00 AM

Prospective bidders may secure bid proposal forms from the PBAC Secretary, Property and Supply Section, Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital, after payment of a non-refundable fee of P300.00

All activities shall be held at the Training Room, Dr. JNRMH, Tala, Caloocan City, unless announced otherwise.

Bidders who failed to attend the Pre-Bid Conference on August 20, 2002 are not allowed to join the Bidding on August 27, 2002

Each bid must be accompanied by a bidder's bond in the form of certified check, manager's check, or GSIS Bond in the sum of 2.5% of the total bid

For inquiries, please contact the PBAC Secretary or call tel. no 962-9884.

The Dr. JNRMH reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at anytime prior to notice of award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidders of the grounds for the hospital's action.

(Sgd.) CECILIA A. GARGUENA, M.D.
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI -- Aug. 9 & 16, 2002)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of PEDRO TABIOS who has been missing since March 1994 was extrajudicially settled among his heirs per Doc# 482, Page# 96, Book# VIII series of 2002 of notary public LEOPOLDO ULANDAY of Quezon City
(PDI-Aug.16, 23 & 30, 2002)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ALVARO J. BULACTIAL, SR. was extrajudicially settled among his heirs per Doc No. 445 Page No. 91 Book No. XXII Series of 2002 of notary public Gaudencio S. Mercado of Quezon City
(PDI-Aug. 9, 16 &23, 2002)

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estates of the late BEATRIZ SIPIN and CRISPULO C. SIPIN, SR. which consist of two (2) lots situated in Mangatarem, Pangasinan (covered by TD Nos. 168 and 167) have been the subject of extrajudicial settlement on August 01, 2002 by and among their children and compulsory heirs CRISPULO SIPIN, JR., TERESITA S. CAGAMPAN, ELEANOR S. ANGELES and SONIA S. SCANLAN as evidenced by that document executed and acknowledged before Notary Public, Atty. Mario Eugenio V. Lim and entered in his Notarial Register as Doc No. 14, Page No 4, Book No. 1, Series of 2002
PDI-Aug. 2, 9 & 16, 2002

Notice is hereby given that JOSE E.A. CAMPA—ANO executed an Extrajudicial Settlement and Partition with Waiver for TCT 1878, Cagayan Province, on July 18, 2002 as per Doc. No. 109, Page No. 75, Book No. 14, Series of 2002 of the Notary Public Celso Aningat of Quezon City
(PDI-Aug. 2, 9 & 16, 2002)

Take Notice of settlement of estate of Maria Gonzales-Inguito is being settled pursuant to deed of extrajudicial settlement of estate with absolute sale Doc 52, Page 12, Book 33 Series 1999 Notary Public Nestor L. Mesina Pasig City.
(PDI-Aug. 16, 23 & 30, 2002)

Take Notice of settlement of estate of Margarita Gonzales-Tonque pursuant to deed of extrajudicial settlement of estate with absolute sale Doc. 400, Page 81, Book 30 series of 1999, notary public Lani Tabilisma Pasig City.
(PDI-Aug. 16, 23 & 30, 2002)

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROCUREMENT SERVICE
INTER-AGENCY BIDS
AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The **PROCUREMENT SERVICE (PS)** invites G-EPS registered suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following:

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF:
- **250 UNITS PERSONAL COMPUTER**
- **300 UNITS PRINTER**
- **25 UNITS NOTEBOOK COMPUTER**

The approved budget for this contract is P 21, 269,230.77.

All interested parties are invited to attend the Pre-Bid Conference that will be held on **August 19, 2002,** 9:30 A.M. at the PS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, PS Complex, Cristobal St., Paco, Manila.

The bid documents shall be available at the PS-PURCHASING DIVISION starting **August 9, 2002** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Three Thousand Pesos (Php 3,000.00).

The bidders shall submit their duly accomplished eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals in three separate sealed envelopes at the bid box located at the Office of the Head of the IABAC Secretariat at the above mentioned address. Deadline for submission and receipt of proposals shall be on **September 3, 2002** at 1:30 p.m.

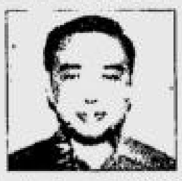
For more information, please call the PS-Purchasing Division at telephone nos. 561-60-98 or 563-94-02.

PS reserves the right to waive any formality in the responses to the eligibility requirements and to this invitation. PS further reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) **EDUARDO P. OPIDA**
Chairman, IABAC

(PDI--Aug. 9 & 16, 2002)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



The public is hereby informed that CO TO WING, whose picture appear above has a Pending Criminal Case (no. 00-2449 to 00-2452) filed at Branch 45 of Metropolitan Trial Court of Pasay City, for violation of B.P. 22/ESTAFA. Any person who might know his whereabouts please contact:

FERIA FERIA LUGTU LA'O NOCHE LAW OFFICES
8/F DPC Place, 2322 Pasong Tamo Ext.
Makati City, Tel. no. 889-8677

(PDI--Aug. 16, 2002)

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that Equitable Bank Stock Cert.#59487 in the name of ENRIQUE JUAN / ROSARIO MEI MEI JUAN has been lost
(PDI-Aug. 9,16 & 23, 2002)

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that Stock Cert. No. 563611 -121 shares for MERALCO A shares under the name of Myrna G. Jardinero were lost. If found please call 7150165 loc. 151
(PDI-Aug. 9, 16 & 23, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
SENATE
Pasay City

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

The Senate of the Philippines invites all eligible bidders to prequalify and to bid for the following services for Year 2003;

A. PUBLIC BIDDING

1. Canteen Concessioning/Catering
2. H M O
3. Housekeeping
4. Preventive Maintenance of Computers & Peripherals
5. Rental of Copier Machines
6. Rental of Shuttle Bus
7. Subscription to Local/International Newspapers & Magazines
8. Subscription to Local/International Journals & Reviews
9. Supply of Gasoline
10. Printing & binding of "RECORD OF THE SENATE" (6 volumes)

B. SEALED BIDDING

1. Cooling Tower Water Treatment Program
2. Garbage Disposal
3. Rental of Drinking Fountains
4. Sanitizers and Deodorizers
5. Subscription to Cable Television
6. Supply of Flowers

Prospective bidders for the PUBLIC BIDDING may obtain the prequalification requirements at the PBAC Secretariat Office, Room 401, Senate of the Philippines, GSIS Building, Pasay City from **August 19-21, 2002.** Deadline for the submission of complete and duly accomplished prequalification documents shall be on **August 28, 2002.** Incomplete prequalification requirements will not be entertained. All applicants shall be notified on the result of the prequalification proceedings. ONLY PREQUALIFIED BIDDERS SHALL BE ISSUED THE APPROVED SCOPE OF WORKS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS FOR BIDDING.

All bids under the public bidding category must be accompanied by a bid bond equivalent to five percent (5%) of the total bid price in the form of cash, manager's check, cashier's check, or surety bond. All surety bonds must be callable on demand. Late bids will be rejected.

Bidders participating in the SEALED BIDDING may secure requirements from the Property and Procurement Services (PPS) located at Room 401, Senate of the Philippines, Pasay City. Schedule of conferences for services under the same category if any, will be announced later including the deadline for the dropping of bids.

The winning bidder(s) for each category shall post a Performance Bond in the form of cash, manager's check, cashier's check, or surety bond equivalent to fifteen percent (15%) of the total contract price. For prepaid contracts, the performance bond shall be equivalent to one hundred percent (100%).

THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS OR ANY PART THEREOF WITHOUT OFFERING ANY REASON, WAIVE ANY DEFECTS CONTAINED THEREIN AND ACCEPT THE OFFER MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE GOVERNMENT, AND THE RIGHT TO CONFISCATE THE BID BOND AND/OR PURSUE APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION SHOULD THE WINNING BIDDER REFUSE TO ACCEPT THE AWARD.

FURTHER, THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ASSUMES NO OBLIGATION WHATSOEVER TO COMPENSATE OR INDEMNIFY THE BIDDER FOR ANY EXPENSE OR LOSS THAT THEY MAY INCUR IN PARTICIPATING TO THIS UNDERTAKING NOR DOES IT GUARANTEE THAT AN AWARD WILL BE MADE.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. ARNEL JOSE S. BAÑAS**
Chairman, Prequalification, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--Aug. 14, 15 & 16, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines

COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS

Manila

PRESENT:

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CHIEFS OF POLICE OF CITIES/MUNICIPALITIES ON THE CONDUCT OF PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION ON THE VIOLATION OF THE BANS ON FIREARMS, OTHER DEADLY WEAPONS AND SECURITY PERSONNEL IN CONNECTION WITH THE AUGUST 26, 2002 SPECIAL ELECTION FOR MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE FIRST DISTRICT OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE.

x--x

ABALOS, Benjamin S. Sr.	Chairman
TANCANGCO, Luzviminda G.,	Commissioner
LANTION, Ralph C.,	Commissioner
JAVIER, Rufino S.B.,	Commissioner
SADAIN, Mehol K.,	Commissioner
BORRA, Resurreccion Z.,	Commissioner
TUASON, Florentino, Jr. A.,	Commissioner

Promulgated: August 14, 2002

RESOLUTION NO. 5593

WHEREAS, the provincial and city prosecutor's are on a continuing deputation to conduct the preliminary investigation and prosecution of election offenses under the Comelec Rules of Procedure.

WHEREAS, there are cities and municipalities where there are no available prosecutors to handle the preliminary investigation of alleged violations of the bans on the bearing, carrying and transporting of firearms and other deadly weapons and the employment of security personnel;

WHEREAS, for the proper investigation and successful prosecution of alleged violations of the bans on firearms and other deadly weapons, and employment of security personnel, it is necessary to authorize the chiefs of police in said cities and municipalities to conduct the preliminary examination.

NOW THEREFORE,— The Commission on Elections, by virtue of the powers vested in it by the Constitution, the Omnibus Election Code, and other election laws, RESOLVES to promulgate, as it hereby promulgates, the following instructions to all chiefs of police concerned of cities and municipalities on the conduct of preliminary examination on alleged violations of the bans on firearms and other deadly weapons and employment of security personnel:

SECTION 1. *Preliminary examination; who conducts.* — The Chief of Police or his duly authorized PNP representatives shall conduct the preliminary examination of all apprehensions for violation of the bans on the bearing, carrying and transporting of firearms and other deadly weapons, use of armored land, water or aircraft, wearing of uniforms and bearing arms, and on the employment of security personnel and bodyguards, organization or maintenance of strike forces, reaction forces or other similar forces in their respective areas of jurisdiction.

SECTION 2. *Procedure.* — The Chief of Police or his duly authorized investigator shall: (a) take the affidavit of the arresting officer or policeman indicating therein the fact of arrest and the circumstances surrounding the arrest; (b) take the statement of the respondent; (c) confiscate the firearm and issue the proper receipt therefore; (d) cause the respondent to sign an affidavit binding himself to be present at the preliminary investigation at a later date before the prosecutor and that failure to do so shall constitute a waiver to present evidence for his defense; and (e) take the statement of witnesses, if any.

SECTION 3. *Rights of arrested persons.* — Any person arrested for violation of the bans specified in Section 1 hereof undergoing examination must be treated humanely and with utmost respect for his constitutional and human rights, particularly his right to:

(a) be informed of his right to remain silent and to counsel;
(b) remain silent, which cannot be waived except in writing and in the presence of counsel;
(c) have competent and independent counsel preferably of his own choice, and if he cannot afford the services of counsel, he will be provided with one, which right cannot be waived except in writing and in the presence of counsel;
(d) be released from detention if no charges have been filed against him within eighteen (18) hours from the time of arrest, unless he is charged under PD 1866, as amended.

SECTION 4. *Disposition of documents and evidence.* — The Chief of Police shall turn over all documents and evidences gathered during the preliminary examination within three (3) days from arrest to the corresponding provincial/city prosecutor.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity* — This resolution shall take effect immediately.

SECTION 6. *Dissemination.* — The Education and Information Department shall cause the publication of this resolution and furnish copies hereof to the Secretary of Justice, the Provincial and City Prosecutors, Chief of the Philippine National Police, the Chiefs of Police of cities and municipalities, the Regional Election Director of Region IX, the Provincial Election Supervisor of Zamboanga del Norte and the city/municipal Election Officers of the First District of Zamboanga del Norte and give this resolution the widest publicity and dissemination.

BENJAMIN S. ABALOS, SR.
Chairman

LUZVIMINDA G. TANCANGCO
Commissioner

RUFINO S.B. JAVIER
Commissioner

RALPH C. LANTION
Commissioner

(On Official Business)
MEHOL K. SADAIN
Commissioner

RESURRECCION Z. BORRA
Commissioner

FLORENTINO A. TUASON, JR.
Commissioner

(PDI – Aug. 16, 2002)

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I. Adult Cardiology
- 3 years Residency in Internal Medicine accredited by PCP
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- at least passed written examination for Diplomate in Pediatrics by the PPS

III. Thoracic And Cardiovascular Surgery
- 5 years Residency in General Surgery accredited by PCS
- must have passed certifying examination given by the PBS (Board eligible / Diplomate)
- at least qualified to take PBS certifying examination and the submission of satisfactory results of the in-service training examinations

IV. Pulmonary Medicine
- PCP Diplomate

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- 3 years Residency in General Anesthesia accredited by PBA (Board eligible)
- 3 month (October to December) pre-fellowship (except for graduates of the Philippine Heart Center Anesthesia Residency Program)

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General Requirements for Application for Fellowship & Residency:
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6. Certificate of Residency in required specialty
7. Specialty Board Certificate in required specialty

Please address your communications to:

JOSE A. YULDE, M.D.
Assistant Director
Office of Education and Research
Philippine Heart Center
East Avenue, Quezon City

** Deadline for submission of application is on August 31, 2002*
** Academic Year 2003 starts on January 1, 2003*

For further inquiries, please contact Ms. Carmela M. Ocasion (cp# 09196239902) or Ms. Cleopatra Q. Palencia (cp# 09207645273) with Te. Nos. 925-2401 locals 3234, 3235, 3236 & 3237 and Telefax 926-9622, or you can email to.oer@phc.gov.ph

(PDI–Aug. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 & 21, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines

COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS

Manila

DEPUTATION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT, PRESCRIBING THEIR DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS AS DEPUTIES OF THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN THE FIRST DISTRICT OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE ON AUGUST 26, 2002.

x--x

ABALOS, Benjamin S., Sr.	Chairman
TANCANGCO, Luzviminda G.	Commissioner
JAVIER, Rufino S.B.	Commissioner
LANTION, Ralph C.	Commissioner
SADAIN, Mehol K.	Commissioner
BORRA, Resurreccion Z.	Commissioner
TUASON, Florentino, Jr. A.	Commissioner

Promulgated August 14, 2002

RESOLUTION NO. 5589

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Constitution, the Omnibus Election Code and other election laws, the Commission on Elections may deputize law enforcement agencies and instrumentalities of the government, including the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and exercise direct supervision and control over such agencies required by law to perform duties relative to the conduct of elections;

WHEREAS, there is need to deputize, with the concurrence of the President of the Philippines, such law enforcement agencies and instrumentalities of the government, including the Armed Forces of the Philippines and to prescribe their duties and functions to ensure the holding of free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible special election on August 26, 2002 for Member of the House of Representatives in the First District of Zamboanga del Norte.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission on Elections, by virtue of the powers vested in it by the Constitution, the Omnibus Election Code and other related election laws, has RESOLVED to deputize, as it hereby deputize the following law enforcement agencies and instrumentalities of the government, to perform specific duties relative to the conduct of the elections, as follows:

1. THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE

The Department of National Defense, its Department Secretary, and Undersecretaries and the Armed Forces of the Philippines, its Chief of Staff, the Philippine Army, its Commanding General, the Philippine Navy, its Flag Officer in Command, the Philippine Air Force, its Commanding General and all the officers and enlisted personnel under their respective commands are hereby deputized to ensure free, honest, orderly, peaceful and credible August 26, 2002 Congressional Elections;

The Secretary of National Defense shall enforce the orders and instructions of the Commission relative to the election duties and functions of the officers and members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The above-named officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and their men shall have the following duties and functions as deputies of the Commission:

1) Provide security to polling places and to members of the boards of election inspectors;
2) Provide security to the personnel of the Commission and other employees of the government performing election duties;
3) Make available certain facilities, such as land, air, and water-craft; communication systems and other equipment, in connection with the delivery and retrieval of election documents, supplies, forms, paraphernalia and equipment;
4) Look into the existence of any armed group organized to commit, or which is committing or about to commit, acts of terrorism or threats to intimidate or coerce any person to vote for or against a candidate and to suppress or prevent said acts of terrorism or threats;
5) Assist the Commission in implementing more effectively election laws and/or rules and regulations, particularly the laws governing prohibition against policeman and provincial guards acting as bodyguards or security guards, the use of armored vehicles and air or water-craft and the prohibition on bearing, carrying or transporting firearms and other deadly weapons in public places;
6) Conduct a periodic assessment of the peace and order conditions in critical areas and recommend measures which may be adopted by the Commission in the interest of free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible election; and
7) Comply with and/or implement directives or resolutions which the Commission may issue or promulgate from time to time.

2. THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION AND THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE

The Department of the Interior and Local Government and its Department Secretary, the National Police Commission and its Chairman, the Philippine National Police and its Director General, are hereby deputized in connection with the special election for Member of the House of Representatives in the First District of Zamboanga del Norte on August 26, 2002, and as such shall;

1) Effect no changes, during the election period, in the assignments of regional, district, provincial, city and station unit commanders and all PNP personnel under his command without the prior written permission of the Commission;
2) Bring to the attention of each and every member of the Philippine National Police, the following basic considerations:
   a) The conduct of the election is a purely and absolutely civilian process which, however, requires the cooperation of the armed forces, provincial, district, city or municipal police forces and agencies; and
   b) Orders issued by the Commission in connection with the August 26, 2002 special elections shall take precedence over and above the orders and directives issued by any other office or agency of the government: Provided, That, nothing herein contained shall be construed as in any manner affecting or constituting an impairment of the constitutional powers of the President of the Philippines to conduct and direct the general peace-keeping functions of the Philippine National Police.
3) To direct the officers and enlisted personnel under his command to strictly observe the following duties and functions:
   a) Provide security to polling places, the members of the boards of election inspectors and the voters whenever the need therefor arises, or whenever the Commission through its election officers or Election Law Enforcement Teams so requires;
   b) Provide security to Comelec personnel and representatives performing duties and functions in connection with the election whenever a request to this effect is made or when required by the Commission;
   c) Take steps to protect voters from threats, intimidation, coercion, harassment or reprisal;
   d) Enforce the following prohibited acts under Section 261 of the Omnibus Election Code:
      1) Paragraph (m) on appointment or use of special policemen, special agents, confidential agents or the like;
      2) Paragraph (p) on possession of deadly weapons;
      3) Paragraph (q) on carrying of firearms outside residence or place of business;
      4) Paragraph (r) on the use of armored land vehicles, water or air-craft;
      5) Paragraph (s), as amended by Section 32 of Republic Act No. 7166, on wearing of uniforms and bearing of arms;
      6) Paragraph (t), as amended by Section 33 of Republic Act No. 7166, on policemen and provincial guards acting as bodyguards or security guards;
      7) Paragraph (u) on reaction, strike forces or similar forces; and
      8) Ban on dispensing, selling and taking of intoxicating liquor.
   e) Take effective measures to prevent members of civilian vigilante units and barangay tanods from engaging in partisan political activities or any act of terrorism, intimidation, coercion, harassment, or reprisal;
   f) Take steps to prevent private security agencies from acting as private armies of any candidate, political party, organization or coalition, campaigners for terroristic or violent acts against persons in connection special elections for Member of the House of Representatives in the First District of Zamboanga del Norte on August 20, 2002;
   g) Implement strictly the rules and regulations promulgated by the Commission in the provinces, cities and municipalities which may be placed under COMELEC control and coordinate with the COMELEC Election Law Enforcement Team therein;
   h) Enforce specific orders of the Commission to confiscate or tear down prohibited election propaganda or advertisement;
   i) Perform such other functions and duties or implement such other directives as the Commission may issue from time to time; and
   j) Render periodic reports on actions taken in accordance with this deputation.

3. THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

The National Bureau of Investigation, its Director and all agents under him are designated deputies for purposes of the August 26, 2002 special election for Member of the House of Representatives in the First District of Zamboanga del Norte, and directed to:

a) Deploy NBI agents to designated places in order to effectively carry out the objective of this resolution, furnishing the Commission with a list of said agents with their respective assignments
b) Direct agents of the NBI to arrest any person who violates the provisions of the Omnibus Election Code and other pertinent election laws and the Rules and Regulations promulgated by the Commission;
c) Report from time to time to the Commission actions taken by him or his agents pursuant to this resolution; and
d) Comply with the orders and directives of the Commission which shall be given priority over orders and directives from other sources, except the Supreme Court and those issued in *habeas corpus* proceedings.

4. THE BUREAU OF PENOLOGY AND JAIL MANAGEMENT

The Bureau of Penology and Jail Management and its Director, are hereby designated deputies of the Commission to enforce the following provision of the Omnibus Election Code:

> "SEC. 261 (n). *Illegal release of prisoners before and after election.* The Director of the Bureau of Prisons, any provincial warden, the keeper of the jail or the person or persons required by law to keep prisoners in their custody who illegally orders or allows any prisoners detained in the national penitentiary, or the provincial, city or municipal jail to leave the premises thereof sixty days before and thirty days after the election. The municipal or city warden, the provincial warden, the keeper of the jail or the person or persons required by law to keep prisoners in their custody shall post in three conspicuous public places a list of the prisoners or detention prisoners under their care. Detention prisoners must be categorized as such."

and to comply with all orders, directives and resolutions which the Commission may from time to time promulgate.

EFFECTIVITY

This resolution shall take effect seven (7) days following its publication in at least two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

DISSEMINATION

The Education and Information Department shall furnish all the above deputized officials and/or departments, office or agencies, through their respective heads, copies of this resolution pertinent to their agencies.

The Executive Director shall disseminate this resolution for the information of the public.

SO ORDERED.

BENJAMIN S. ABALOS, SR.
Chairman

LUZVIMINDA G. TANCANGCO
Commissioner

RUFINO S.B. JAVIER
Commissioner

RALPH C. LANTION
Commissioner

on official business
MEHOL K. SADAIN
Commissioner

RESURRECCION Z. BORRA
Commissioner

FLORENTINO A. TUASON, JR.
Commissioner

(PDI--Aug. 16, 2002)

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
THE GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF CIVIL DEFENSE

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ELECTRONIC ENGINEERS

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The candidates would be required to work in the field and carry out the maintenance of sirens and train technicians. The applicants must possess any of the following:

- Doctorate in Electronic Engineering with two (2) years experience
- Master's degree in Electronic Engineering with six (6) years experience
- Graduate in Electronic Engineering with ten (10) years experience in the field

The applicants must have command of written and spoken English. The company offers attractive salary package along with other fringe benefits.

Those meeting the above requirements may please come with their testimonials and certificates for interview and test on **Monday, August 19, 2002, from 11:00 a.m. at Saudi Embassy, 389 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue Extension, Makati City.**

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU
Region VII Greenplains Subdivision, Banilad, Mandaue City
Tel. Nos. 346-9426 • 345-3905 Telefax 346-1647
Email: denremb7@cvis.net.ph/emb7@cvis.net.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Environmental Management Bureau (EMB-7), Banilad, Mandaue City, invites qualified bidders/suppliers to participate in the bidding of the following items:

QTY	*UNIT*	*EQUIPMENT/TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION*
		A. Package Continuous Air Quality Monitors with Telemetry System
1	PC	1. Instrument Shelter Aluminum Box Chasis (2.0 x 3.0 x 2.3 m) Roof Guard Rail Ladder
2	PCS	2. Aluminum Racks (40 RU)
1	PC	3. Gas Sampling Manifold
1	PC	4. Dust Sampling Manifold
1	PC	5. Internal Power Generator (7.5 KVA)
1	SET	System must be capable of measuring air pollutants and meteorological conditions:
		6. Sulphur Dioxide (SO_2) analyzer
		7. Ozone (O_3) Analyzer
		8. Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2) Analyzer
		9. Benzene (C6H6)
		10. Toluene (C6H5 CH3)
		11. P-xylene (C6H4 CH3)
		12. SPM (Dust) Analyzer
		13. Dilution Calibrator (For No & SO_2 Analyzer)
1	SET	14. Particulate Matters (PM-10)
1	SET	15. Meteorological Sensors @ one (1) pc. Each of the ff: Wind speed; Wind direction; Relative humidity; Temperature Solar radiation; Meteorological converter; Barometric pressure;
1	PC	16. Meteorological Pneumatic Mast (Extendable up to 10 m tall)
		17. Calibration Gas in 10-liter Aluminum Cylinder with gas regulator 1 pc. Nox; 1 pc. SO2
1	PC	18. Internal Ozone Generator (For O_3 Analyzer)
1	PC	19. Pentium 200 MHZ Notebook Computer with Lazer Printer
1	UNIT	20. Four (4) wheel drive Double Cab Pick-up
	B.	*B. Office/Field Equipment*
2	PCS	1. Global Positioning system
1	PC	2. Mimeographing machine - manually & electrically operated
1	PC	3. Computer (Laptop)
2	PCS	4. High Volume sampler PM-10

Interested bidders are required to submit the following: authenticated business License; SEC/DTI Registration Certificates; if cooperative duly registered w/ Cooperative Development Authority; VAT Registration Certificates & latest audited Financial Statements (stamped received by the BIR). Bidders bond equivalent to 5% of the total bid price in the form of Manager's check, GSIS or in cash. Performance bond equivalent to 10% of the total bid price is also required for the winning bidders.

The prequalification/eligibity forms may be obtained from RBAC Vice-chairman William P. Cuñado of the above address starting **August 20, 2002** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of One Hundred Pesos (P100.00) and shall be submitted not later than **August 27, 2002**. The Pre-Bid Conference will be on **September 5, 2002** at 2:00 p.m. Sealed bids shall be received by this Office at the above-address not later than 10:00 a.m. of **September 20, 2002** and then to be publicly opened immediately.

The RBAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any required formality and award the contract to any bidder whose proposal as evaluated by the RBAC is the most advantageous to the government. The RBAC assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, or does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **BIENVENIDO L. LIPAYON**
Regional Director

(PDI - Aug. 8 & 16, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines

COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS

Manila

IN THE MATTER OF EXERCISING SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OVER THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE IN CONNECTION WITH THE AUGUST 26, 2002 SPECIAL ELECTION FOR MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE FIRST DISTRICT, ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE.

x--x

Chairman Benjamin S. Abalos, Sr.
Commissioner Luzviminda G. Tancangco
Commissioner Rufino S. B. Javier
Commissioner Ralph C. Lantion
Commissioner Mehol K. Sadain
Commissioner Resurreccion Z. Borra
Commissioner Florentino A. Tuason, Jr.

Promulgated: August 14, 2002

RESOLUTION NO. 5590

WHEREAS, Sec. 52 (b) of Republic Act No. 6975 provides:

"The city and municipal mayors shall exercise operational supervision and control over the Philippine National Police (PNP) units in their respective jurisdiction except during the thirty (30) days before and thirty days following any national, local or barangay elections. During the said period, the local police force shall be under the supervision and control of the Commission on Elections.

The term "operational supervision and control" shall mean the power to direct, superintend, oversee and inspect the police units or forces. It shall include the power to employ and deploy units or elements of the PNP, through the station commander, to ensure public safety and effective maintenance of peace and order within the locality. For this purpose, the term "employ and deploy" shall mean as follows:

"Employ" refers to the utilization of units or elements of the PNP for purposes of protection of lives and properties, enforcement of laws, maintenance of peace and order, prevention of crimes, arrest of criminal offenders and bringing the offenders to justice, and ensuring public safety, particularly in the suppression of disorders, riots, lawless violence, rebellious or seditious conspiracy, insurgency, subversion or other related activities.

"Deploy" shall mean the orderly and organized physical movement of elements or units of the PNP within the province, city or municipality for purposes of employment as herein defined."

NOW THEREFORE, the Commission on Elections, by virtue of its power under the Constitution, the Omnibus Election Code, other election laws, and R.A. 6975, RESOLVED, as it hereby RESOLVES, to exercise direct operational supervision and control over the Philippine National Police through the PNP Director from **August 14, 2002 to September 8, 2002** in the First District of Zamboanga del Norte.

During said period, decisions, directives, orders and instructions of the Commission on Elections shall prevail over those emanating from any other authority except the Supreme Court and those issued in habeas corpus proceedings.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The Education and Information Department shall cause the publication of this resolution in two newspapers of general circulation and furnish the Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government, the concerned governor, city and municipal mayors copies hereof.

BENJAMIN S. ABALOS, SR.
Chairman

LUZVIMINDA G. TANCANGCO
Commissioner

RUFINO S.B. JAVIER
Commissioner

RALPH C. LANTION
Commissioner

on official business
MEHOL K. SADAIN
Commissioner

RESURRECCION Z. BORRA
Commissioner

FLORENTINO A. TUASON, JR.
Commissioner

(PDI - Aug 16, 2002)

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION

Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
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☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
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☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
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❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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LORENZA E. SOTELO-BELTRAN

August 10, 1927 - August 14, 2002

Widow of the late **Judge Herminio Milanio Beltran**

Her bereaved children **HERMINIO JR., EDMOND, GRACE, GIL, ALEX, MARILYN & RENE PIZARRO, FERDINAND & LEA, JAMES & ANNA LIZA**; grandchildren **KAREN RUTH, GEOFFREY NICCOLO, ANNA PATRICIA, ANNA KATRINA, ALISSA YNEZ, IVAN LEINARD** and **IAN DRANLEI**; brother and sisters, brothers-and sister-in-law, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City and will be transferred to Infanta, Pangasinan on Monday, August 19, 2002.

Interment will be on Saturday, August 24 after the morning Mass at the Saint John the Evangelist Parish Church.

EMILIANA "Mommy" MANAHAN Vda. de TUPAS

(1922-2002)

Died August 14, 2002 at the age of 80.

Survived by her daughter **Myfe**; married to **Victorino L. Marcia**; grandchildren **Mike & Ruth**, **Mylene & Raoul**, **Marivic & Joseph** and **Mervin** and great grandchildren **Nichole** and **Mikee**.

Her remains lie in state at the St. Peter Memorial Chapels, Quezon Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, August 18, 2002 at Himlayang Pilipino after the 1:00 p.m. Mass.

Our Dearly Beloved

THELMA LIM TERUEL

Peacefully joined her Creator on 11 August 2002

Her grieving husband ***Boogie Teruel****;*
her children ***Tiara****,* ***Mario****, and* ***Victor****;*
parents ***Dr. Mario & Loreta Lim****; parents-in-law*
Gen. Raymundo *(†) &* ***Beatrice Teruel****;*
brother ***Ronald****; sisters* ***Shirley****,* ***Jeanette****,*
Evelyn*, and* ***Elizabeth****;*
sisters and brothers-in-law, nephews and nieces,
request the pious readers to pray for
the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at
Christ the King Church in Greenmeadows.

Funeral Mass will be on Saturday, August 17, 2002,
at 10:00 AM at Christ the King Church
in Greenmeadows.

CLASSIFIEDS

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Science and Technology
PHILIPPINE ATMOSPHERIC, GEOPHYSICAL AND ASTRONOMICAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
(PAGASA)
Asiatrust Bank Building, 1424 Quezon Avenue,
Quezon City 1104

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Bidding Date : **September 6, 2002**
Pre-Bid Conference : **August 30, 2002**
(WFFC Conference Room)

1. **Soil Dial Thermometer (3 point max/min)**
2. **ROUTER, 10/100 mbps, 2 ethernet ports, 2 serial ports with RAS (Remote Access Service)**
3. **Processor Module**
4. **Transfer Paper Thermal**
5. **Thermal Ink**
6. **Radiosonde Transmitters**

Interested parties are invited to apply for eligibility and to submit sealed bids on the above using the TWO-ENVELOPE SYSTEM to be opened publicly at the Conference Room of the Weather & Flood Forecasting Center (WFFC), PAGASA Agham/BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City.

Bid requirements will be issued at the PAGASA Records Management Section (RMS), 4th Floor, ATB Building, 1424 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City upon presentation of this advertisement clipping, together with the company's TIN on **August 21, 2002.**

Bidding documents will be issued by the BAC Secretariat from **August 28 to 30, 2002** at the RMS to those parties who applied and considered eligible to participate in the bidding.

Only eligible bidders shall be invited to the Opening of Bids on **September 6, 2002** at 2:00 p.m. at the WFFC Conference Room, PAGASA Building, Agham/BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City. Bids should be accompanied by a 2.5% Bidder's Bond in the form of Cash, Manager's Check or GSIS Bond, callable on demand within 120 days from the bidding date.

All inquiries concerning this invitation to bid should be addressed to the Chairman, PAGASA BAC.

The PAGASA reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason of its own, waive any formality therein when necessary, and to accept complying offer considered most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **BERNARDO M. SORIANO, Jr.**
Chairman, BAC

(PDI - Aug. 16, 2002)

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

NOTICE TO DEPOSITORS OF THE CLOSED COOPERATIVE RURAL BANK OF ALBAY, INC. (CRBAI)

1. Starting August 16, 2002, the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC) thru its duly authorized representatives shall receive claims for insured deposits maintained with the closed **Cooperative Rural Bank of Albay, Inc.**
2. Depositors are requested to proceed directly to the premises of the closed bank from August 16 to August 29, 2002, Mondays thru Fridays, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., where PDIC representatives are stationed to accept claims and entertain queries of depositors.

   After August 29, 2002, all depositors can file their claims personally at the PDIC office from Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or by mail addressed to –

   The Manager
   Claims Processing Department
   Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation
   2228 Chino Roces Avenue, 1231 Makati City
3. Depositors are advised to present the following requirements to our representatives when filing their claims:
   a. Original evidence of deposit such as Savings Passbook or Certificate of Time Deposit; and
   b. Latest identification document (ID) bearing the depositor's signature

   Other documents may be required by our representatives in the course of their processing of claims filed.
4. Pursuant to the provisions of R.A. 3591, as amended, the prescriptive date (last day) for filing of claims for insured deposits in the closed Cooperative Rural Bank of Albay, Inc. is on **January 3, 2004.** After **January 3, 2004**, PDIC as insurer, shall no longer accept any claim for insured deposits maintained with the said closed bank.

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

(PDI--Aug 15 & 16, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given of the filing by applicant **Benguet Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BENECO)** on **January 15, 2002** of an application for approval of its unbundled rates pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act No. 9136 docketed as ERC Case No. 2002-16. Subsequently, it filed an amended application on **June 3, 2002** docketed as ERC Case No. 2002-214. The applicant proposed an overall average tariff adjustment of P1.1980/kwh as a result of the restructuring and/or reformatting of its existing rate structure in accordance with the prescribed Uniform Rate Filing Requirements.

The Commission has set the application for hearing on **September 12, 2002** at nine o'clock (9:00 a.m.) in the morning at the ERC Hearing Room, 15th Floor, Pacific Center Building, San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

All interested parties who may wish to comment on or oppose the said application should file their comments and/or oppositions on or before the date of hearing. Such parties who may wish to have the details of the application and who shall have manifested to the Commission their desire and intention to participate actively in the proceedings, may request that before the date of hearing, they be furnished with copies of the application by the applicant, which is hereby directed to furnish the parties making such request with copies of the application and its attachments. Likewise, any such interested party may examine the application and other pertinent records filed with the Commission during the usual office hours.

WITNESS, the Honorable **FE B. BARIN**, Chairman, and the Honorables **MARY ANNE B. COLAYCO, OLIVER B. BUTALID, CARLOS R. ALINDADA** and **LETICIA V. IBAY**, Commissioners, Energy Regulatory Commission, this 18th day of July 2002 at Pasig City.

(Sgd.) **FRUCTUOSO C. LAGUNZAD, JR.**
Executive Director III

(PDI - Aug 16 & 23 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
CITY OF TARLAC
Province of Tarlac
OFFICE OF THE CITY MAYOR

INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION

ADB Loan No. & Title: Loan No. 1658-PHI, Clark Area Municipal Development Project

Contract Title: **DETAILED ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION CONSULTANCY FOR THE CAMDP SUBPROJECT OF TARLAC CITY**

1. The City of Tarlac is one of the six (6) Local Government Units (LGU) who are beneficiaries of the loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), under the Clark Area Municipal Development Project (CAMDP). Part of the loan shall be relent to the mentioned LGU, through the Department of Finance (DOF)/ Municipal Development Fund Office (MDFO), to partially finance the cost of DETAILED ENGINEERING and CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION for the CAMDP subprojects of Tarlac City as listed below. The eligibility rules and procedures of the Asian Development Bank will govern the bidding/hiring process.

Contract Package	Subproject No.	Subproject Description
South Eastern Bypass Road	T1	Construction of 800m x 7.3m carriageway with 2x1m shoulders and drainage. A 2x1m box culvert will also be constructed to discharge existing outfall downstream.
Mac Arthur Highway to Masalasa Creek Drainage Channel	T3	Construction of 4.2 km of covered and open drainage channels adjacent to main roads and provision of riprap protection along the critical sections of Masalasa creek.
Southern Bypass Road	T5	Construction of 700m x 7.3m carriageway with verges and drainage channels, and acquisition of right of way.

2. Eligible and suitably experienced firms wishing to offer their services may submit their letter of intent and prequalification documents properly labeled as "PREQUALIFICATION FOR DETAILED ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION OF TARLAC CITY SUBPROJECTS UNDER CAMDP".
3. The Prequalification Documents, in the English language, may be obtained by interested Consulting Firms upon submission of a written application to the address below. The document will be sent by courier service or may be picked up. The last day of issuance of the Prequalification documents shall be on **August 19, 2002.** No liability will be accepted for loss or late delivery.
4. Prequalification Documents must be submitted to the address below on or before **August 26, 2002, 17:00 hour.** Late submission shall be rejected.
5. The City of Tarlac will not be responsible for any cost or expenses incurred by interested consulting firms in connection with the preparation or delivery of Proposals. Moreover, it reserves the right to reject any or all proposals without offering any reason, waive any required formality contained therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the City Government. Additionally, The City of Tarlac does not guarantee that an award will be made. The decision of PEAC (Tarlac City) is final and binding.
6. The Prequalification, Evaluation and Award Committee (PEAC) Secretariat of the City of Tarlac is in the following address:

The CHAIRMAN
Pre-Qualification, Evaluation, and Award Committee (PEAC) Secretariat
Office of the City Mayor
2nd Floor City Hall Building
City of Tarlac
Philippines

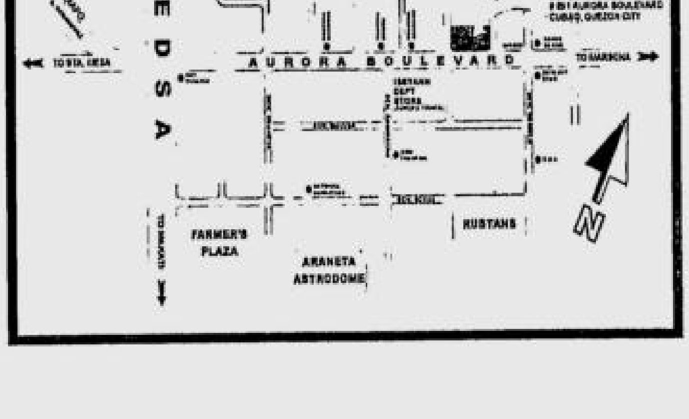
Telephone: (045) 982-0190; Facsimile number: (045) 982-0692

(Sgd.) **GENARO M. MENDOZA**
City Mayor & PEAC Chairman

(PDI--Aug. 11 & 16, 2002)

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS

Aurora branch is now open to serve your Classified Ads requirements.
For inquiries, please call **912-9008** to **11**.



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—Mick LaSalle
SAN FRANSISCO CHRONICLE

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—MaryAnn Johanson
FLICK FILOSOPHER

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For screening schedules, call 729-7777
Solar FILMS INC.

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING
EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DTS) ORANGE COUNTRY
2 (SDDS) WINDTALKERS
3 (DTS) 8 LEGGED FREAKS
4 GOLD (DTS) UNFAITHFUL
5 GOLD (DOLBY) THE SWEETEST THING
6 GOLD (SDDS) LILO & STITCH
7 GOLD (DOLBY) KILLING ME SOFTLY
8 STUART LITTLE -2
9 LILO & STITCH
10 ABOUT A BOY

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486
1
2
3 (DTS)
4
5
6 (DTS)
Golden Pearl THX

Masagana CINEMA
TEL. 551 63 87
1 BIGLANG LIKO
2 UNFAITHFUL
3 MAPUPULANG ROSAS

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986
1 THE SWEETEST THING
2 D' URAGONS
3 MAPUPULANG ROSAS
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL) UNFAITHFUL
5 BIGLANG LIKO

METROPOLIS star
tel 850.4285
1 MAPUPULANG ROSAS
2 D' URAGONS
3 UNFAITHFUL
4 BIGLANG LIKO
5 LILO & STITCH
6 THE SWEETEST THING
7
8

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) tel 751.2011 to13
1 UNFAITHFUL

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 GALING-GALING MO
2 STUART LITTLE 2

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC
tel 930.9515
1
2 MAPUPULANG ROSAS
3 RESERVE

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864
1
A

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376
1 BIGLANG LIKO
2 8 LEGGED FREAKS
3
4

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588
1 (DOLBY) EIGHT LEGGED FREAKS
2
3
4 MAPUPULANG ROSAS
5 LILO & STITCH
6 BIGLANG LIKO
7 (DTS) UNFAITHFUL
8 (SDDS) THE SWEETEST THING
9 (DOLBY) KILLING ME SOFTLY

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508
2 RESERVE

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781
1 BIGLANG LIKO
2 8 LEGGED FREAKS
3 D' URAGONS
4 (SDDS) THE SWEETEST THING
5 MAPUPULANG ROSAS
6 (DOLBY) LILO & STITCH
7 (DTS) UNFAITHFUL
8 GALING-GALING MO
9 SAGAD

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0083
1 (DTS)
2
3
4 MAPUPULANG ROSAS
5 (SDDS) LILO & STITCH
6 UNFAITHFUL
7 (DOLBY) THE SWEETEST THING
8 BIGLANG LIKO

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795
1 BIGLANG LIKO
2 THE SWEETEST THING
3 (DTS) LILO & STITCH
4 MAPUPULANG ROSAS
5 (SDDS) UNFAITHFUL

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470
1 BIGLANG LIKO

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888
1 BIGLANG LIKO

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724
Dilson MAPUPULANG ROSAS
Lords MAPUPULANG ROSAS
Jennet

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 CLOSED
2 CLOSED
3 CLOSED

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215
3

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238
1 (DOLBY) UNFAITHFUL
2 BIGLANG LIKO
3 LILO & STITCH
4 D' URAGONS
5 MAPUPULANG ROSAS

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619
1
2
3
4
5
6

FRC Cinema
Talaba Bacoor Cavite
1
2

Berma
TEL. 879 21 68 / 879 21 67
1 BIGLANG LIKO
2 UNFAITHFUL

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269
1
2

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198
1 SAGAD
2 THE SWEETEST THING
3 (DTS) 8 LEGGED FREAKS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 LILO & STITCH
2 (DTS) MEGIDDO
3 (DOLBY) THE SWEETEST THING
4 UNFAITHFUL

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146
1 THE SWEETEST THING
2 (DOLBY) LILO & STITCH
3 (DTS) UNFAITHFUL
4 MEGIDDO

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 D' URAGONS
2 WINDTALKERS
3 STUART LITTLE ?
4

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 D' URAGONS
2 SORORITY BOYS
3 (DOLBY) WINDTALKERS
4 (DTS) STUART LITTLE 2

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) LILO & STITCH
2 MAPUPULANG ROSAS
3 HUNGER FOR LOVE
4 (DTS) BIGLANG LIKO

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) UNFAITHFUL
2 SAGAD
3 (DTS) LILO 7 STITCH
4 THE SWEETEST THING
5 HANGGANG KAILAN AKO

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883
1 PAGSALUHAN NATIN
2 UNFAITHFUL
3 LILO & STITCH

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249-2558
1 PAGSALUHAN NATIN
2 UNFAITHFUL
3 THE SWEETEST THING

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311
1 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
2 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
3 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736
1
2
3

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808
1 (DTS) SAGAD
2 (DTS) RESERVE

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385
1 RESERVE

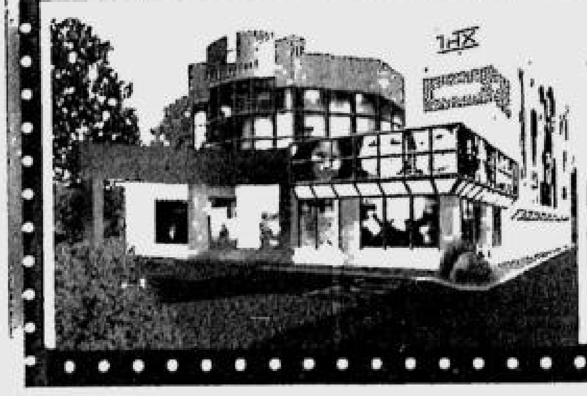
Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657
1 GALING-GALING MO
2 D' URAGONS
3 SAGAD

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 D' URAGONS
2 8 LEGGED FREAKS
3 MEGIDDO
4 SAGAD

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) LILO & STITCH
2 THE SWEETEST THING
3 (DTS) THE UNFAITHFUL
4 MEGIDDO

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY dts SDDS



PREMIERE CINEMA NOW SHOWING
5:00 PM , 7:30PM, 10:00 PM

about a boy

SM CINEMA
SM Dial-A-Movie Tel: 633-9999
NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173868
1 UNFAITHFUL
2 BIGLANG LIKO
3 LILO & STITCH
4 SWEETEST THING
5 8 LEGGED FREAKS
6 D' URAGONS
7 MAPUPULANG ROSAS
8 KILLING ME SOFTLY

SM CENTERPOINT
7140522 -7161416
1 UNFAITHFUL
2 KILLING ME SOFTLY
3 LILO & STITCH
4 SWEETEST THING
5 ANG GALING GALING MO..
6 D' URAGONS
7 8 LEGGED FREAKS
8 WINDTALKERS
9 BIGLANG LIKO
10 STUART LITTLE 2

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749
1 8 LEGGED FREAKS
2 ORANGE COUNTY
3 STUART LITTLE 2
4 LILO & STITCH
5 KILLING ME SOFTLY
6 D' URAGONS
7 SWEETEST THING
8 UNFAITHFUL
9 WINDTALKERS
10 MAPUPULANG ROSAS
11 ANG GALING GALING MO
12 BIGLANG LIKO

SM CITY MANILA
5239240
1 LILO & STITCH
2 ABOUT A BOY
3 8 LEGGED FREAKS
4 SWEETEST THING
5 UNFAITHFUL
6 WINDTALKERS
7 KILLING ME SOFT,LY
8 BIGLANG LIKO
9 D' URAGONS
10 STUART LITTLE 2
11 MEGIDDO
12 ORANGE COUNTY

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401
1 ABOUT A BOY
2 KILLING ME SOFTLY
3 LILO & STITCH
4 UNFAITHFUL
5 SWEETEST THING
6 ORANGE COUNTY
7 ANG GALING GALING MO
8 8 LEGGED FREAKS
9 D' URAGONS
10 WINDTALKERS
11 STUART LITTLE 2
12 BIGLANG LIKO

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452
1 8 LEGGED FREAKS
2 KILLING ME SOFTLY
3 ORANGE COUNTY
4 BIGLANG LIKO
5 UNFAITHFUL
6 SWEETEST THING
7 WINDTALKERS
8 LILO & STITCH

SM SOUTHMALL
8066888
1 ORANGE COUNTY
2 KILLING ME SOFTLY
3 LILO & STITCH
4 SWEETEST THING
5 STUART LITTLE 2
6 D' URAGONS
7 UNFAITHFUL
8 8 LEGGED FREAKS
9 WINDTALKERS
10 BIGLANG LIKO

SM CITY CEBU
2313876
1 WINDTALKERS
2 LILO & STITCH
3 ABOUT A BOY
4 UNFAITHFUL
5 SORORITY BOYS
6 MEGIDDO
7 SAGAD
8 8 LEGGED FREAKS

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422
1 HIGH CRIMES
2 CLOSED
3 ANG GALING GALING MO
4 8 LEGGED FREAKS
5 DOG SOLDIERS
6 LILO & STITCH
7 CLOSED
8 MEGIDDO

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015
1 8 LEGGED FREAKS
2 SWEETEST THING
3 MEGIDDO
4 BIGLANG LIKO
5 UNFAITHFUL
6 LILO & STITCH

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975
1 BIGLANG LIKO
2 UNFAITHFUL
3 LILO & STITCH
4 D' URAGONS

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302
1 UNFAITHFUL
2 LILO & STITCH
3 BIGLANG LIKO
4 D' URAGONS

SM CITY DAVAO
2978998
1 HIGH CRIMES
2 ABOUT A BOY
3 8 LEGGED FREAKS
4 ANG GALING GALING MO
5 WINDTALKERS
6 LILO & STITCH

SM BICUTAN
1
2
3
4
SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
1
2
3
4
SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

THE PODIUM CINEMA
[illegible] Mandaluyong City
6369781-85 loc 130

LILO & STITCH
11:00 FS/11:30 MF/ 1:25/3:20/5:15/7:10/
9:05/10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:25 END

UNFAITHFUL
11:00 FS/11:20 MF/1:40/4.00/6:20/
8:40/10:40 LFS/11:00 LMF/1:00 END

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Galleria
632- 9115- 16
633- 7641 loc. 279
1 WINDTALKERS
2 THE SWEETEST THING
3 EIGHT LEGGED FREAKS
4 ORANGE COUNTY
5 LILO & STITCH
6 UNFAITHFUL
7 BIGLANG LIKO
8 KILLING ME SOFTLY
9 ABOUT A BOY
10 STUART LITTLE 2

Ermita
536 -7809- 12
1 UNFAITHFUL
2 ORANGE COUNTY
3 EIGHT LEGGED FREAKS
4 THE SWEETEST THING
5 BIGLANG LIKO
6 LILO & STITCH
7 KILLING ME SOFTLY

Metro East -
Marcos hway 682- 8193 / 8280
1 ABOUT A BOY
2 KILLING ME SOFTLY
3 UNFAITHFUL
4 LILO & STITCH
5 EIGHT LEGGED FREAKS
6 THE SWEETEST THING
7 WINDTALKERS
8 BIGLANG LIKO

Novaliches
935 3229 - 30
1 KILLING ME SOFTLY
2 LILO & STITCH
3 LILO & STITCH
4 THE SWEETEST THING
5 BIGLANG LIKO
6 EIGHT LEGGED FREAKS
7 UNFAITHFUL
8 WINDTALKERS

Imus
471- 8188 / 875- 3838
1 EIGHT LEGGED FREAKS
2 LILO & STITCH
3 BIGLANG LIKO
4 THE SWEETEST THING
5 UNFAITHFUL
6 KILLING ME SOFTLY

Bacolod
441- 0453 / 0459
1 LILO & STITCH
2 MEGIDDO
3 ANG GALING 2 MO BABES
4 DOG SOLDIERS
5 STUART LITTLE 2
6 EIGHT LEGGED FREAKS

Iloilo
336- 8077 - 78
1 EIGHT LEGGED FREAKS
2 MEGIDDO
3 HIGH CRIMES
4 EIGHT LEGGED FREAKS
5 LILO & STITCH
6 ANG GALING 2 MO BABES

Star Mills-
San Fernando, Pamp. 875- 1927
901 5318 / 5270
1 MEGGIDO
2 THE SWEETEST THING
3 LILO & STITCH
4 BIGLANG LIKO
5 UNFAITHFUL
6 LILO & STITCH

malabon citisquare-
soon to open

UNFAITHFUL

Late Night Screening
on
Aug. 17 - 18, 2002
Friday & Saturday -
11:00 p.m. @
Robinsons
Movieworld
Galleria

how-2-reach-us:
email: htc@netasia-mnl.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
call-a-movie 536- 7812

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Kadayawan special at Davao City's Venue

THE VENUE, the country's largest party destination, and Smart Simply Amazing present "The Venue Kadayawan Special," a succession of musical treats which starts Aug. 24.

Bounce Provincial Raid Party Tour, a non-stop extreme hip-hop and R&B dance party, will take centerstage. The show will feature DMC All-Star champion DJs like MOD (Master of Disaster), Coki, Sir Scratch and Kimozave.

Other performers include MC Rappers, Gorgeous and Sexy Ledge Dancers and Breakbeat Dancers.

Studio 23's "Urban Myx" will cover the party.

On Aug. 30 and 31, Manila's top stand-up comedians and impersonators Kim, Terry, Wally and Pooh will delight Davaoeños in "Quatro QWantos," a two-night show of fun and laughter.

Ayala Cinemas

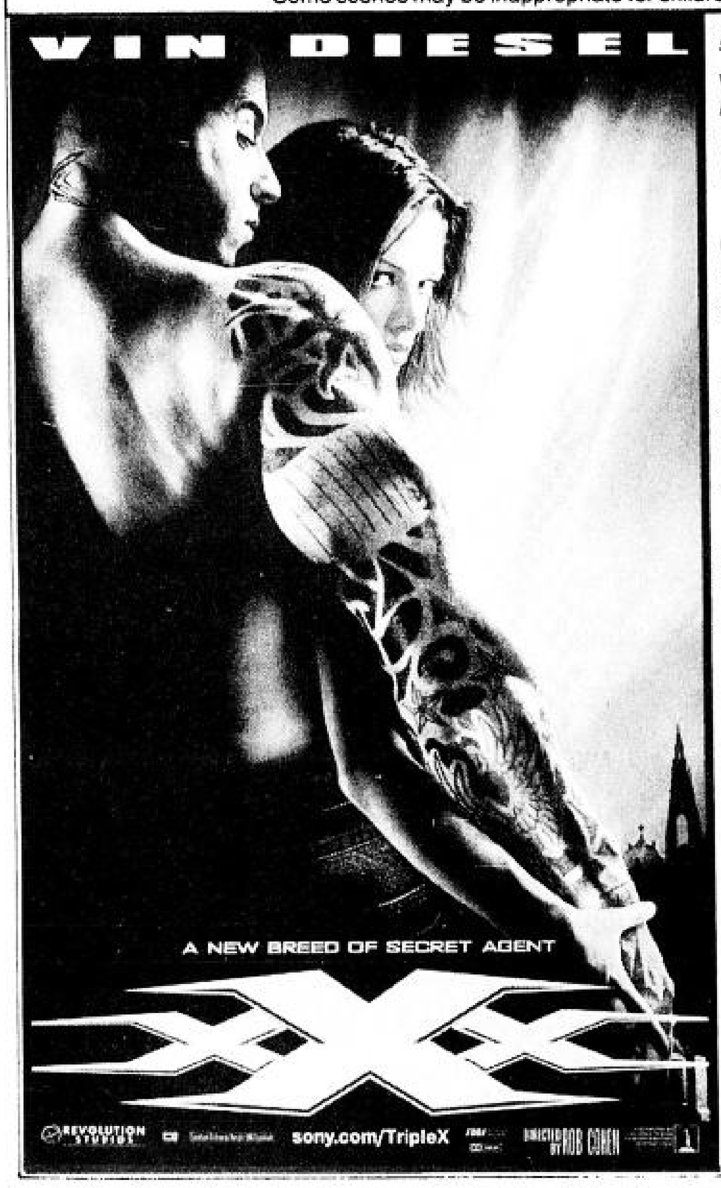
The Best of CINEMANILA 2002
August 16 to September 3 2002

Featuring critically acclaimed films such as: Following, Central Station, Atanarjuat and more.

For screening schedules call: 729-7777 or visit www.sureseats.com

MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS
BLOCKBUSTER treat
on August 16, 17, 18, 2002
BUY 3 MOVIE TICKETS AND GET 1 FREE AT...
ILOILO | IMUS | NOVALICHES | METRO EAST | STARMILLS
BUY 4 MOVIE TICKETS AND GET 1 FREE AT...
ERMITA | GALLERIA | BACOLOD
For Inquiries please call 687- 7945
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3090, Series of 2002

OPENS AUGUST 21
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
Some scenes may be inappropriate for childred under age 13.


VIN DIESEL
A NEW BREED OF SECRET AGENT
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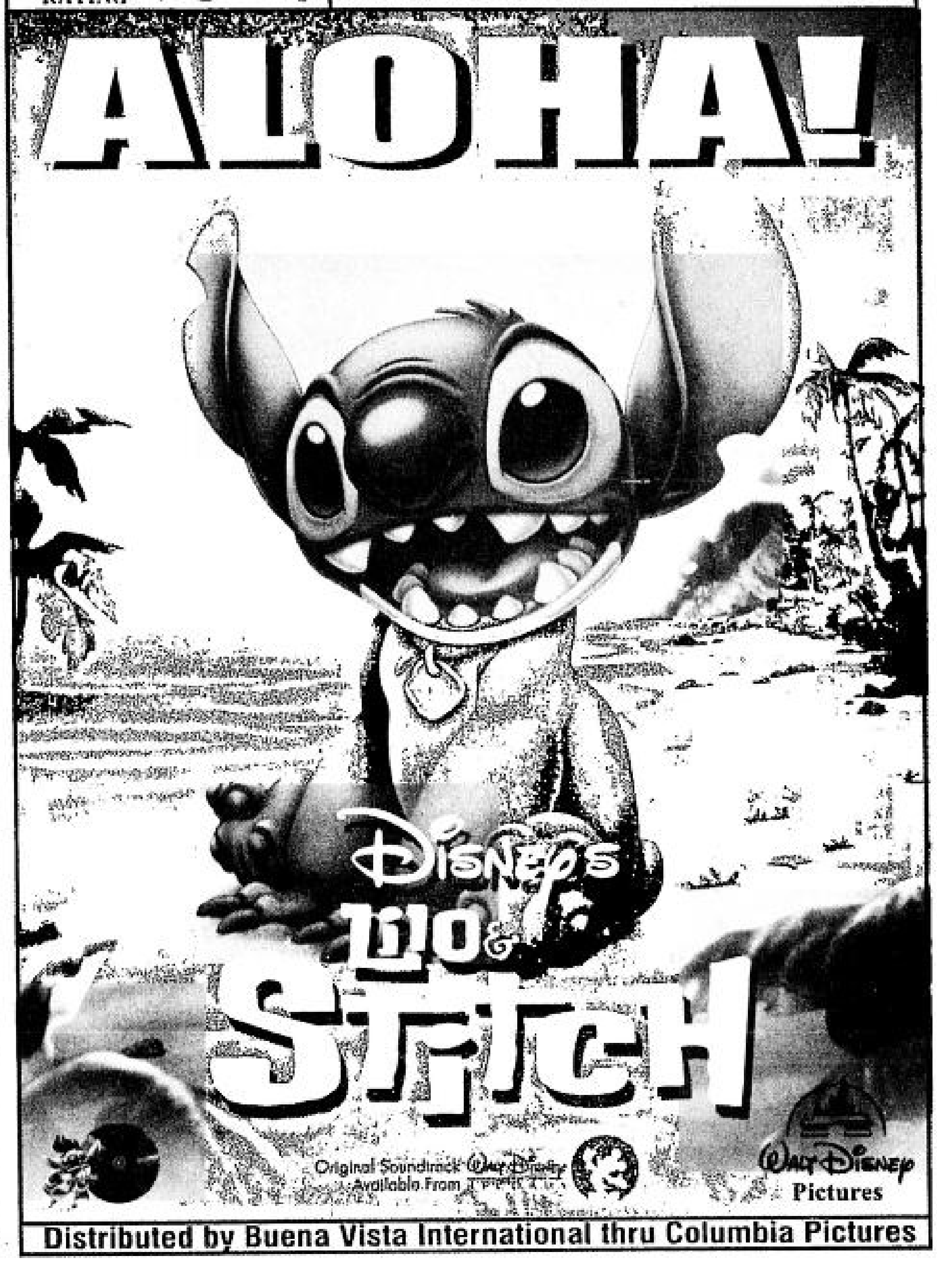
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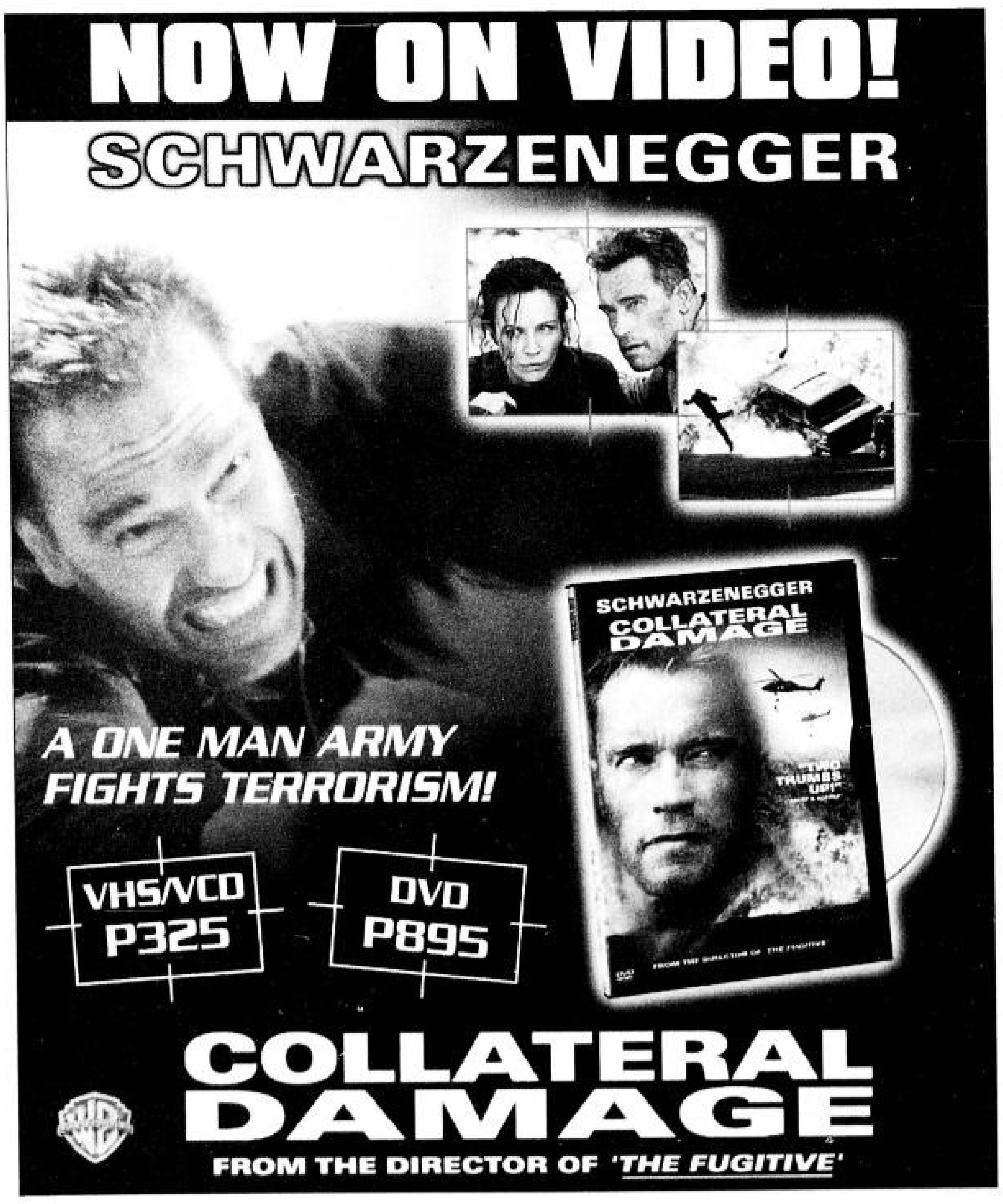
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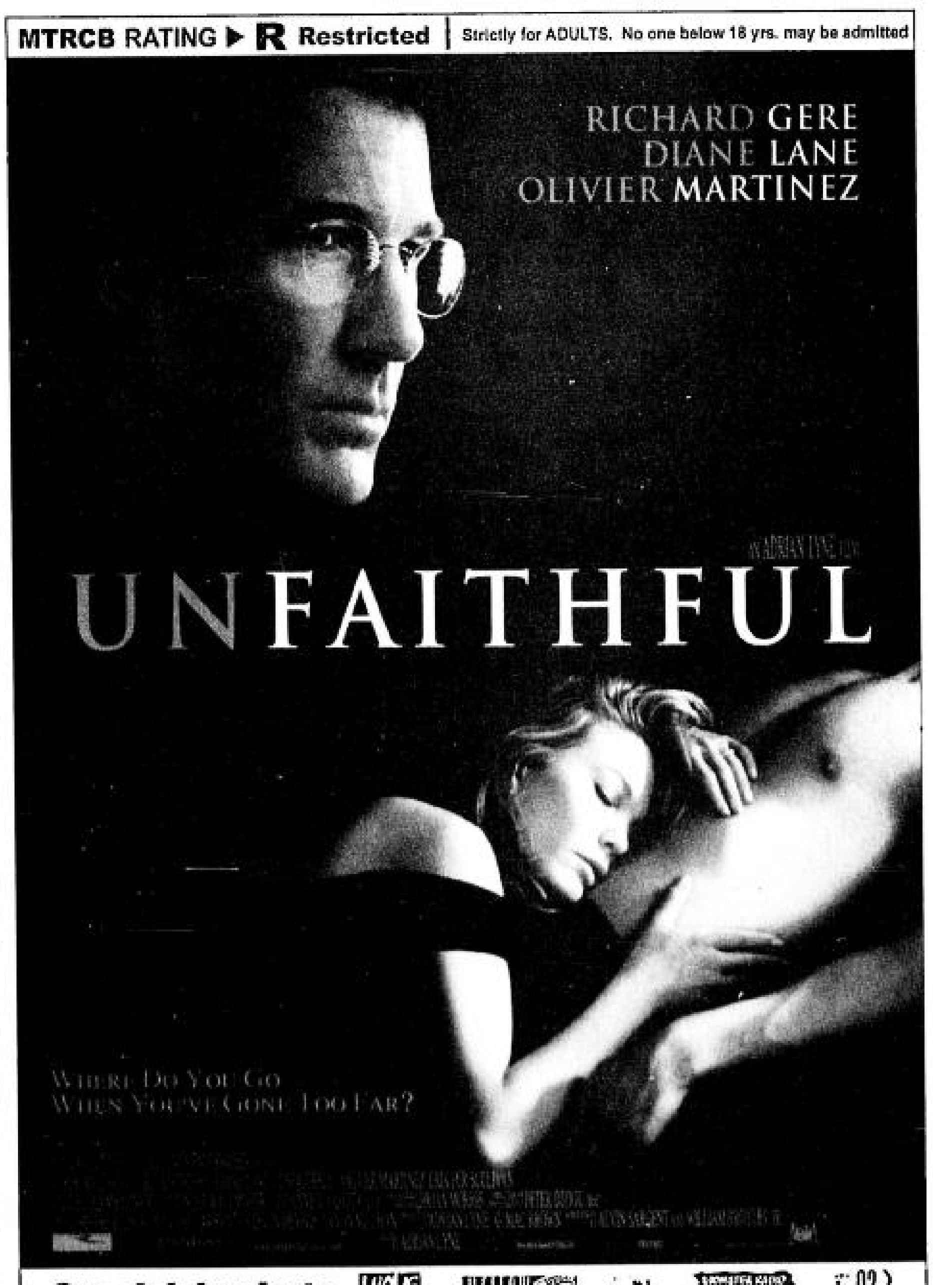
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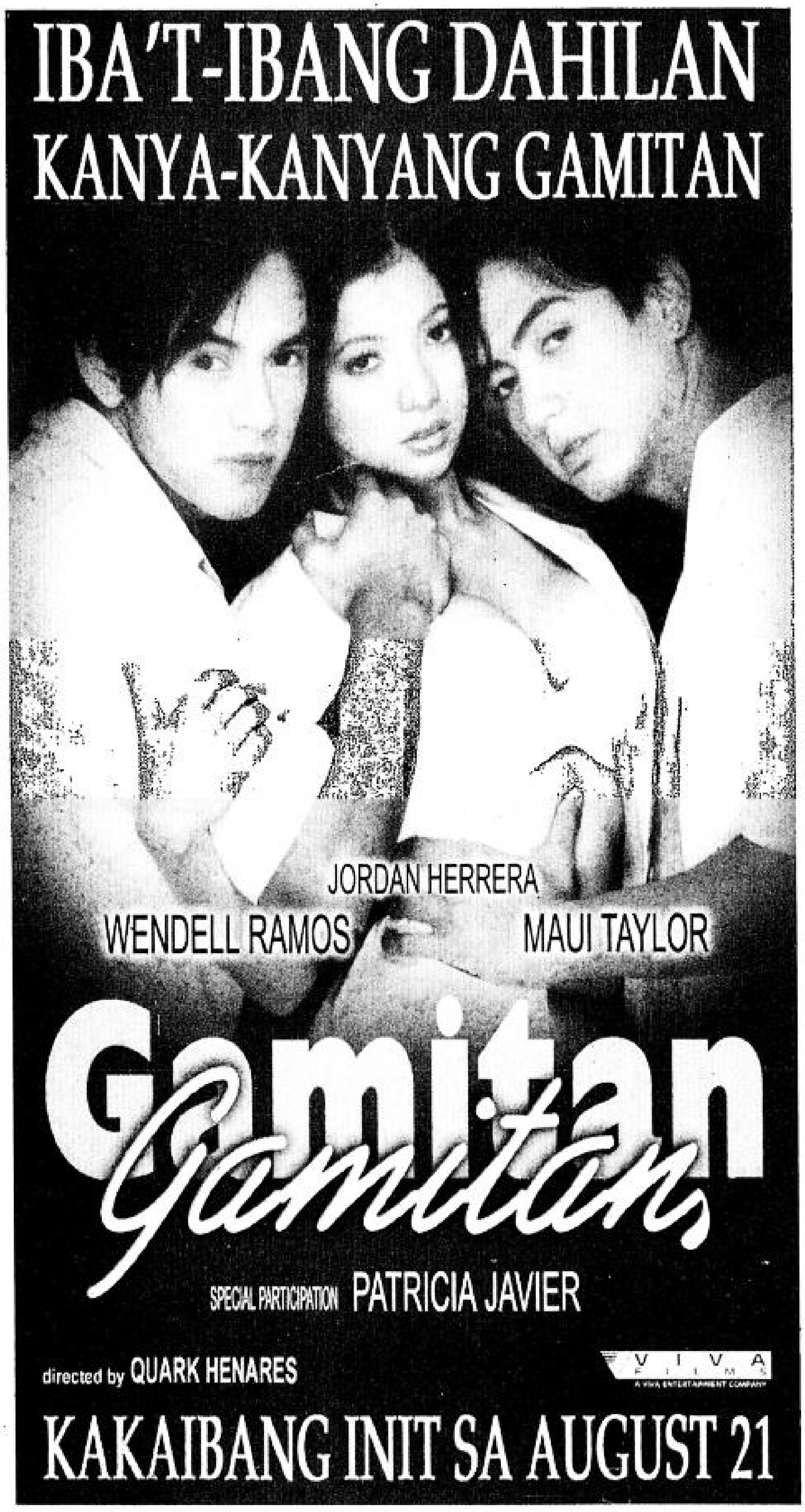

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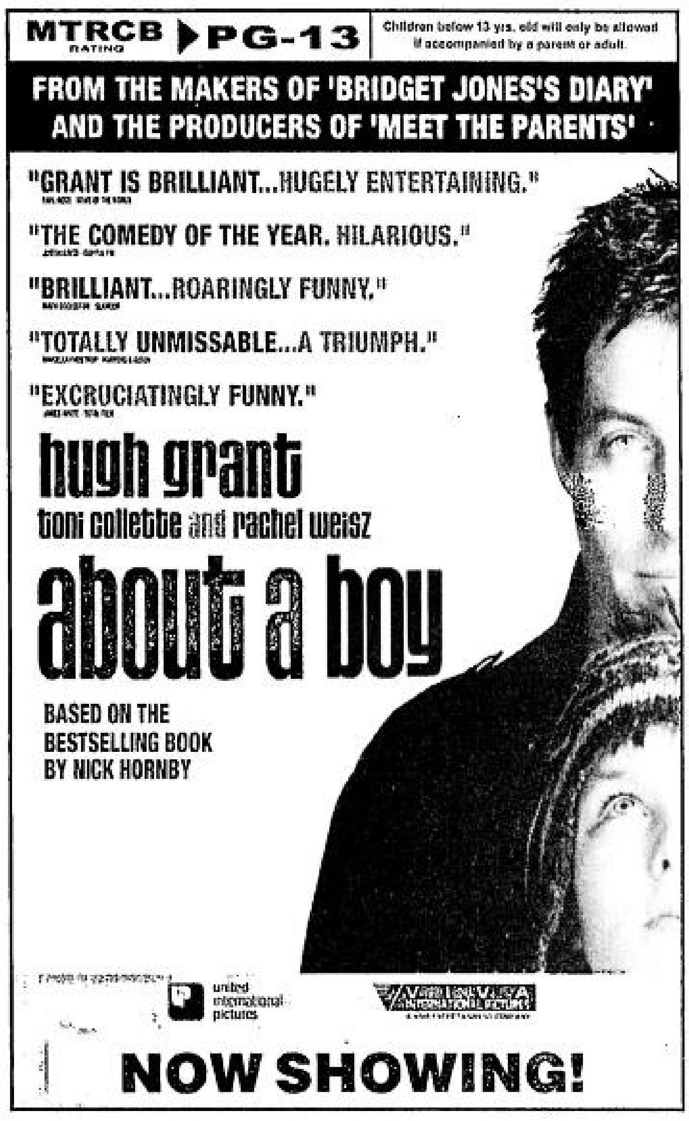

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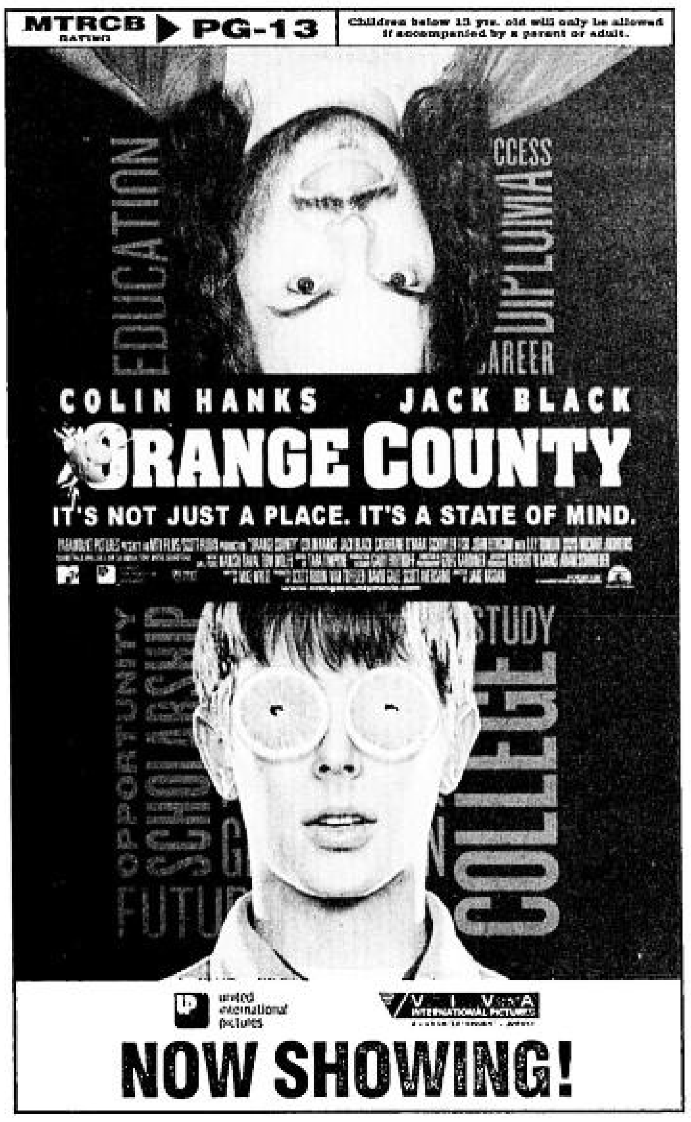

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ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	SWEETEST THING
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	LILO & STITCH
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	UNFAITHFUL
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	WINDTALKERS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	KILLING ME SOFTLY
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	BIGLANG LIKO
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	D' URAGONS
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
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ODEON	UNFAITHFUL
ODEON-2	SELDA / MONSTER BALL
ROBEN	BIGLANG LIKO
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	HART'S WAR / SCORPION KING
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET-2	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
QUEZON-1	MAPUPULANG ROSAS
REMAR	BIGLANG LIKO
REMAR-2	MAPUPULANG ROSAS
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	BIGLANG LIKO
B	MAPUPULANG ROSAS
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	UNFAITHFUL
CINEMA-2	LILO & STITCH
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BIGLANG LIKO
CINEMA-2	MAPUPULANG ROSAS
CINEMA-3	SAGAD
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	WINDTALKERS
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	D' URAGONS
CINEMA-6	UNFAITHFUL
CINEMA-7	STUART LITTLE 2
CINEMA-8	ABOUT A BOY
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	UNFAITHFUL
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	ORANGE COUNTRY
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	LILO & STITCH
CINEMA-12	SWEETEST THING
CINEMA-14	KILLING ME SOFTLY
CINEMA-15	8 LEGGED FREAKS
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-3	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA
CINEMA-5	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-6	SELDA
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PINAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
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CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

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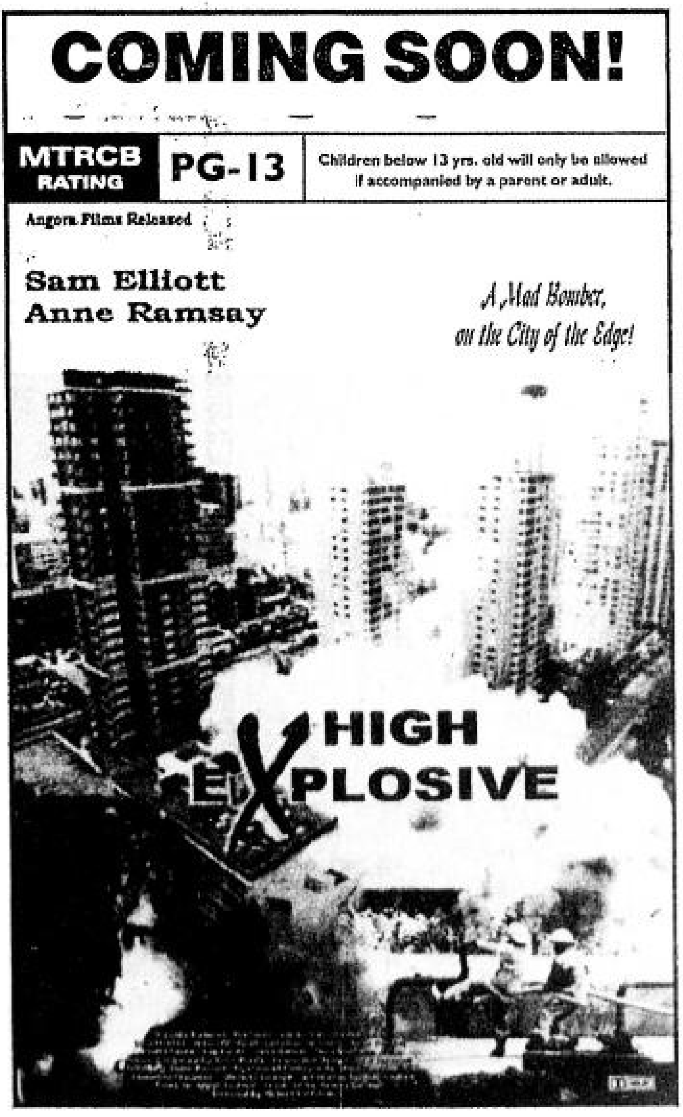

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Barbie's Cradle sings at Suburbia on Thursdays

SHOWS

SUBURBIA Malate celebrates its third anniversary by bringing together some of the country's best performers and bands for a star-studded party every night.

After Aiza Seguerra's highly successful concert series, Suburbia now features talented group Barbie's Cradle for a series of special shows every Thursday.

Hits like "Tabing Ilog," "Langit na Naman," "Belinda Bye Bye" and "Money for Food" have catapulted the group to singing stardom.

Crowd favorites like Manila's premier band Side A opens the week with performances on Mondays.

Tuesdays feature smooth R&B music from Escape. Wednesdays highlight back-to-back performances of Freestyle and 7th Soul on Aug. 28; South Border and 7th Soul on Aug. 21.

Weekends are pumped up with energetic sets from Mulatto and Time and a Half on Fridays, Pido With Take One and Elements on Saturdays.

For reservation, call 450-1685 to 86.

'The Power of Two'

BASIL Valdez and Kuh Ledesma join for a concert tour of the United States, "The Power of Two."

Kuh looks forward to sharing the stage with the top balladeer. This is their first teamup together after a long time. The last one was in the late '80s with the successful "Socorro, Bakit Mo Inawitan si Basilio?," at the Manila Hotel.

Repertoire for "The Power of Two" includes the memorable hit songs recorded by both artists. They will also render Broadway classics, love songs and current pop hits.

The tour kicks off in Seattle on Aug. 17 at the Meany Hall, followed by a show in Los Angeles on Aug. 23 at the Grand Olympic Auditorium.

There are shows in San Diego on Aug. 24 at the San Diego Concourse Hall and Reno on Aug. 31 at the City Center Pavilion.

AMERICAN CONCERT TOUR. Basil Valdez and Kuh Ledesma together in four cities.

THE SINGER AND HIS "MUSE." Rico J. Puno and Ybeth Garcia in "Something Wonderful."

'Black and White'

SALCEDO

TWO upcoming divas—Kelly Grace Salcedo and Cindy Rosas—are featured in a concert series, "Black and White," which premieres Aug. 19 at Rembrandt Hotel's Downtown, starting 9 p.m.

Cindy is the voice behind the sentimental hit song, "Sumisigaw," under Dyna Music.

Kelly Grace, who is of Puerto Rican lineage, has waxed a duet with pop icon Nonoy Zuniga in the album, "Awit Abroad."

"Black and White" was conceptualized for Kelly Grace and Cindy based on their skin tones and singing styles. They will interpret a medley of the hits of popular divas such as Barbra Streisand, Celine Dion, Whitney Houston, Diana Ross, and local artists like Regine Velasquez and Jaya.

"Black and White" is also scheduled for out-of-town shows. The concert series is scripted and directed by Roy Iglesias. Musical director is Raffy O. Amaranto, founder and president of Poppsinc. Musical arranger is Eric Narvaez.

Vocal support will be provided by Jun, Benedict and Reejay, collectively known as 4@kelly.

'Something Wonderful'

CELEBRATE 26 years of total entertainment with Rico J. Puno as he performs in a special concert, "Something Wonderful," 9 tonight at Onstage in Greenbelt, Makati City.

Rico started his career in the '70s, which marked the birth of the distinct Pinoy music and the emergence of some of the best performers in the local entertainment scene.

In a span of over two decades, Rico has recorded signature hits like "Macho Guwapito," "Kapalaran" and "Kartada Diyes," to name a few. His songs have endured through the years and he is considered one of the pioneers in making original Pinoy music a success.

In "Something Wonderful," Rico will be joined by chanteuse Ybeth Garcia, who started her singing career in numerous bars and hotels. She recently launched her debut album composed of 10 tracks, with the carrier single, "Kung Sasabihin Kong . . ."

Rico and his "muse" will perform hit songs from the past and some of standard favorites.

Tickets at P800 and P500 are available at Ticket World outlets in major National Bookstore branches (891-5610).

Official radio sponsors are K-91 FM, Joey@92.3 Rhythms, Mellow Touch 94.7, RJ 100 and 105.1 Crossover.

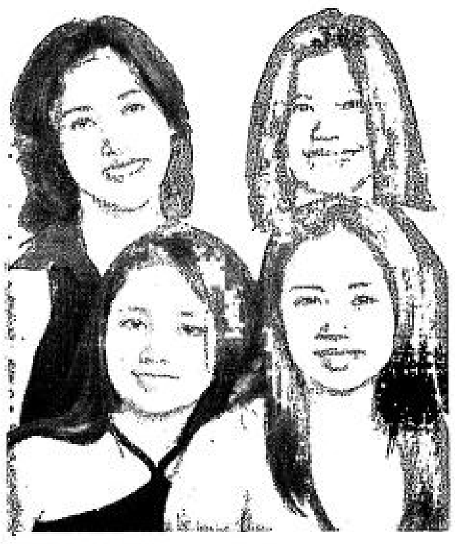
On Aug. 31, Rico and Ybeth will also perform at the Cebu Plaza Hotel ballroom. Tickets are now available at SM Department Store Customer Service (233-0445 or 231-2423).

'Basta't Pinoy'

THE CENTER for Pop Music Philippines will present its students in the "Basta't Pinoy" production concert, Aug. 17, 7 p.m., in observance of Linggo ng Wika. Guest performer in the show is diminutive belter Dessa.

Jun Gomez is lighting designer. Peter Gomez directs.

"Basta't Pinoy" is produced and conceptualized by Butch Albarracin, founding president of the Center for Pop Music Philippines, Inc.



CENTER for Pop Music Philippines students to be featured in a production concert.

Aliya Parcs enjoys new-found career

SHE'S a familiar face on TV. You may have seen her as the girl who gets upstaged by a bottle of Heinz Ketchup or the pretty doctor Marc Nelson waited for in a Rexona commercial.

She made a sales pitch for an extract therapy astringent. She played a Porsche-riding socialite in a Smart Zed ad and the athletic lady in a Jergens lotion commercial.

Sure, she has a pretty face, but that's not all there is to 22-year-old Aliya Parcs. One of the vocalists of the former Dye Vest Band and now with Prime Council Band (with Radha, Gail Blanco and Jed Maddela), Aliya has a cool and soothing voice that sounds best when she belts out her favorite pop and R&B tunes.

A versatile performer, Aliya loves duets like "Baby Come To Me" and "Just My Imagination."

Now managed by the husband and wife team of Ronnie and Ida Henares of Primeline, Inc., Aliya started out in Bacolod City where she got her break hosting a Saturday noontime variety show. She also joined the band Azul with Mari Teves (formerly of Sabor Latino) and Carlos Balcells of The Dawn, with several other musicians.

Shortly after, Aliya decided to try her luck in Manila. She started out by enrolling in a few workshops to hone her talent. Then she asked around for a good manager. Ronnie and Ida headed the list of names recommended to her by friends. A day after their first meeting, Ronnie and Ida signed up Aliya as a Primeline talent.

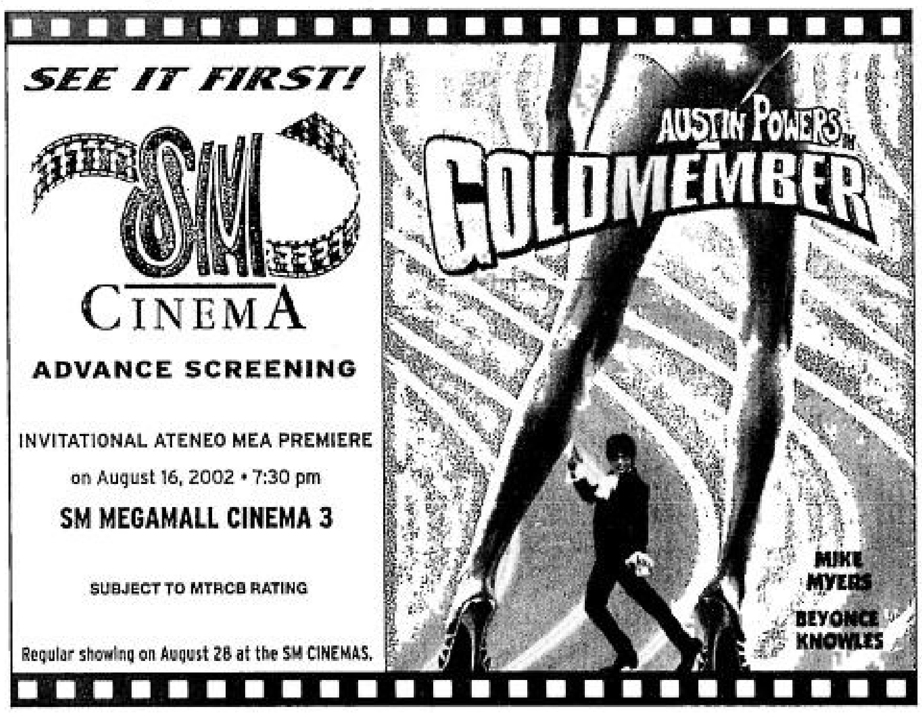
Soon, Aliya began making the rounds of Metro Manila's top nightspots. While singing with Roxanne Lapus' band Tribe of Levi in Strumm's Makati, Aliya was spotted by an agent and hired to do VTRs. From there, she came out in several commercials, the latest being for San Miguel Beer.

Born and raised in the Netherlands, Aliya first sang in public at age four.

One of the highlights of Aliya's career has been recording a duet with Jose Mari Chan, "Here and Now," included in the latter's latest album, "A Heart's Journey."

Currently, Aliya also hosts FTV, a pilot show on fashion.

PARCS. Versatile performer.



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LILO & STITCH	LILO & STITCH	MAKATI CINEMANILA 2002	THE SWEETEST THING 11:10, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10, 11:10	LILO & STITCH
KILLING ME SOFTLY	KILLING ME SOFTLY	MAKATI CINEMANILA 2002	UNFAITHFUL 1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 9:15, 12:00	THE UNFAITHFUL
THE SWEETEST THING	UNFAITHFUL 1:00, 1:00, 3:45, 6:30 9:15, 12:00	RICO J. PUNO IN SOMETHING WONDERFUL AUG. 16 - 9PM GARY V: HITS AT ONSTAGE-SEPT.6	AMELIE 1:00, 3:35, 6:10, 8:45, 11:20	LILO & STITCH
UNFAITHFUL	ORANGE COUNTY		KILLING ME SOFTLY 12:25, 2:35, 4:45, 6:55, 9:05, 11:15	ABOUT A BOY
	8 LEGGED FREAKS		LILO & STITCH 11:20, 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20, 11:20	SWEETEST THING
	THE SWEETEST THING			
	ABOUT A BOY			

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August 17 & 18
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ABOUT A BOY P13 1:25, 3:30, 5:35, 7:40, 9:45	LILO & STITCH GP 11:50, 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50	LILO & STITCH GP 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 8:50
THE SWEETEST THING R18 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00	ORANGE COUNTRY P13 12:40, 2:30, 4:20, 6:10, 8:00, 9:50	UNFAITHFUL R18 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10

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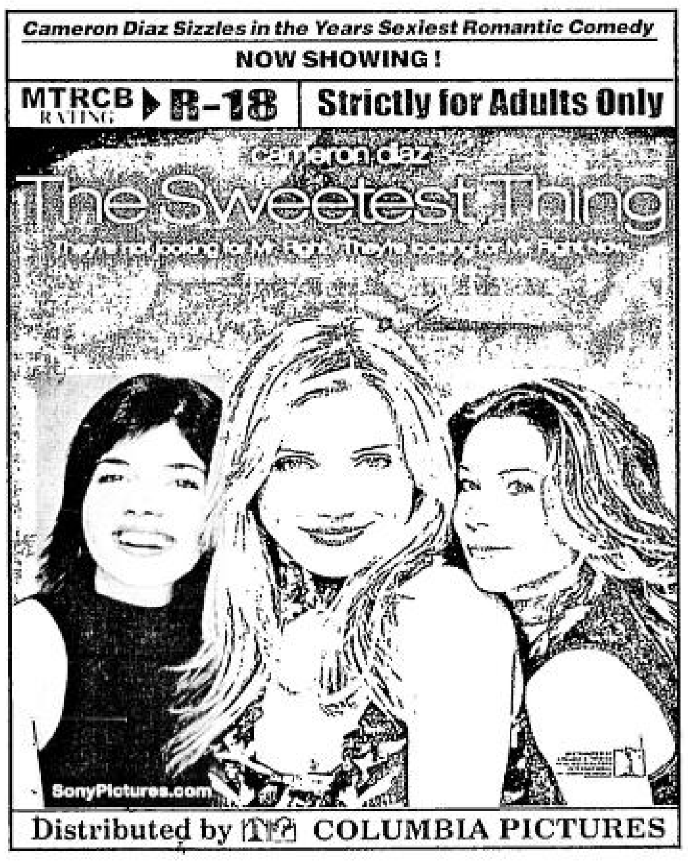

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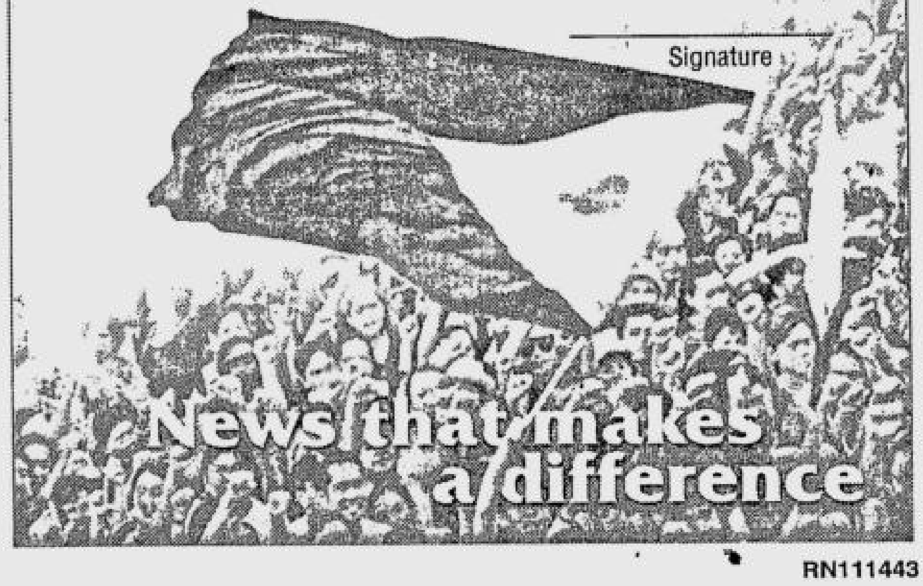
News that makes a difference

RN111443

DTI, SEC define roles in drive vs pyramiding

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry (DTI) and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) are set to sign a memorandum of agreement that will define their respective functions in the investigation of pyramiding and multilevel network marketing schemes.

Based on the MOA set to be signed later this month, both agencies have agreed to make referrals and findings to each other on cases that are beyond their jurisdiction.

The SEC has agreed to forward to the DTI the cases on multilevel network marketing or MLM scams that might constitute pyramiding, which fall under the jurisdiction of the consumer watchdog. All MLM cases that involve pyramiding schemes are covered by the Consumer Act of the Philippines and are, therefore, the responsibility of the DTI.

In turn, the DTI has agreed to pass on to the SEC cases that violate securities and investments regulations, for investigation by the corporate watchdog. MLM contracts that involve monetary investments in a common enterprise with promises of high profits from the efforts of other agents fall under the jurisdiction of the SEC.

In cases that have both elements, the DTI and SEC agreed to closely coordinate their efforts even though they may have separate resolutions on the same issue.

The MOA also mandated the SEC Complaints and Investigation Division, Compliance and Enforcement Department and the DTI Bureau of Trade Regulation and Consumer Protection to form a committee and implement the guidelines on the joint investigation and cooperation.

Closer coordination between the DTI and SEC is expected to hasten the investigation of pyramiding and MLM schemes that have proliferated and eroded consumer and investor confidence in the country.

Unilever says RP can be regional supplier of detergents, deodorant

ANGLO-DUTCH consumer goods manufacturer Unilever is planning to produce deodorant sticks and detergent bars in its Philippine unit for sale to Asia, Europe and the United States as part of its rationalization program.

Unilever Philippines spokesperson Chito Macapagal said the Philippines should emerge as a net exporter of Unilever products with the company's plan to step up its exports of deodorant sticks and detergent bars.

Macapagal said Unilever's head office took note of the Philippines' efficient and innovative production and packaging systems for deodorant sticks and detergent bars.

"When our mother company told us to find products where we (the Philippine unit) could be a regional supplier, we initially thought we didn't have any since most of our products were sourced from abroad and most of our production was geared for the domestic market. But our people worked hard to find the products where the Philippines could excel because they didn't want the Philippines to become a mere trading concern," Macapagal said.

Macapagal said the Philippines churned out deodorants in mini-sticks and big roller ball packages that the head office found to be apt for key cities in Asia, Europe and possibly the United States.

Macapagal said the Philippines was seen to be superior in the production of detergent bars that could be sold to Third World countries where hand washing remained dominant.

Macapagal stressed that it remained to be seen whether Unilever would move out its entire shampoo business out of the Philippines, considering that 70 percent of local sales were in sachets or silver foil packets where the Philippine unit has the edge. "Only 30 percent of our shampoos are sold in bottles and only part of that are imported from Thailand," Macapagal said. "The bulk of the operations will remain in the Philippines." *Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.*

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How to brew the perfect RP brand

By Christine A. Gaylican

HOW do you create a Philippine coffee blend that will become synonymous with the world's best?

This is the question that members of the private sector-led Coffee Development Board are struggling to answer. They know it will not be easy but are determined to make it happen.

National Coffee Board chair and Figaro Coffee Co. president and CEO Pacita "Chit" Juan says the first step to make the dream a reality is to raise the quality of local coffee by elevating the standards of local coffee production.

Second is to come up with a brand name for the coffee. If Jamaica has its Blue Mountain coffee and Hawaii has its Kona and Oahu brands, then the Philippines now has "Kape Isla" (island coffee) which the board wants to be associated with top quality coffee.

"We do not only want to market that Philippine coffee as one of the world's finest, we want to rebuild the local coffee industry and be an exporter again," Juan explains.

The group wants to build the "Kape Isla" brand by launching a quality seal program and unifying the coffee industry.

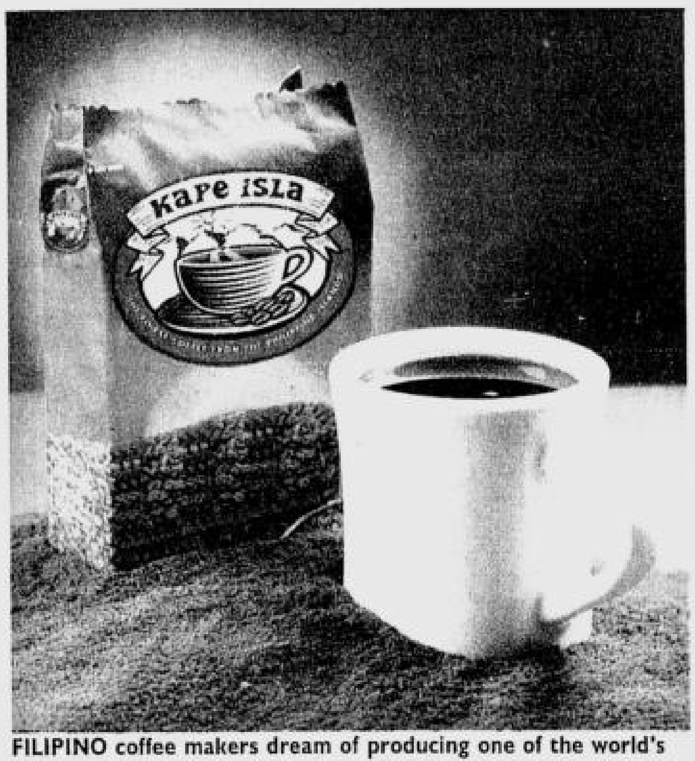
Board director and Makati Business Club executive director Guillermo Luz says the board has already linked up with hotels, restaurants, retailers and specialty shops like Figaro, Starbucks and local coffee manufacturers so that Kape Isla would be known and placed side-by-side with other coffee brands such as Cafe de Colombia.

Luz says that the Kape Isla seal will certify that millers process the coffee according to world-class standards.

"The marketing program will upgrade quality perception of Philippine coffee and put a premium on the brand name," Luz says.

Luz explains that the launch of the quality seal program will include the introduction of the quality seal trademark icon in the packaging of manufacturers supporting the program.

Members of the MBC and other participating coffee manufacturers include Nestlé Philippines and Negros Coffee and Grains, specialty coffee shops Boyd Coffee Co., Cafe Breton, Figaro Coffee Co., Gourmet Coffee Co., Starbucks (Rustans Coffee Corp.), Seattle's Best and Siete Baracos have organized the National Coffee Development Board (NCDB).

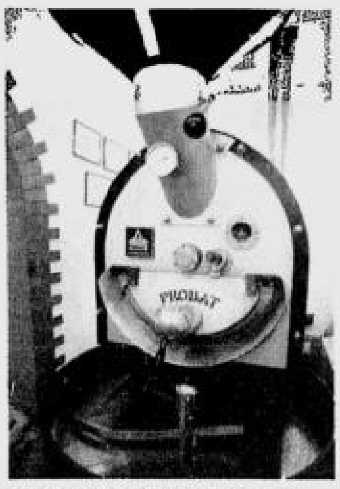


FILIPINO coffee makers dream of producing one of the world's best coffee and at the same time rebuild the local coffee industry. ***(Photo is just a computer generated illustration for the article. A real Kape Isla brand is yet to be created.)***

Pushing for quality

The coffee program will start with the rehabilitation of coffee farms and milling facilities nationwide.

"We will start with the training of farmers on the right agriculture practices in order to produce quality raw coffee, mainly the Robusta variety, which is extensively grown in the country," notes Juan.



THERE is a need to comply with quality standards set for local coffee.

A P300-million credit line was opened exclusively for coffee farmers recently by the Quedan Rural Credit and Guarantee Corp.

Under the coffee credit program, accredited millers, processors and farmer cooperatives will act as the principal borrowers who will relend the loan to individual farmers.

The loan will be in the form of inputs and supplies such as fertilizers. It is payable within one year through monthly, quarterly and semi-annual payment schemes. Individual farmers who have produced at least 500 kg of coffee within the last three cropping season could avail of the loan.

The program targets to increase the yield from the present 500 kilos to 700 kilos to an ideal 4 metric tons per hectare.

"By improving the quality of the coffee beans, farmers can also raise their income from P20 per kilo to P30," adds National Coffee Board co-chair and Negros Coffee and Grain Milling Co. president and general manager Nicholas A. Matti.

The Department of Trade and Industry and International Coffee Organization Certifying Agency executive director Antonio Reyes says the program will also accredit coffee millers to ensure they comply with quality standards set for Kape Isla.

"Millers coffee produced are normally measured according to moisture content, whether properly washed and their facilities will also be examined," says Matti.

The National Coffee Board and its program were conceived with the One Million Jobs Program led by presidential adviser Luis Lorenzo Jr.

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DIESEL MAX
Above all diesels

Bakery dishes out goodies for 27 years

By Yolanda Fuertes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

DAGUPAN CITY—Big bakeshops that sell franchises may have invaded this city, but homegrown Pedrito's continues to dominate the gastronomic scene when it comes to cakes, breads, pastries and special *bibingka* (rice cake).

After all, Pedrito's has been dishing out baked goodies and food for Dagupeños for 27 years now, falling and rising with Dagupan's economic tide.

Pedrito's, owned by couple Pedro and Erlinda Tordesillas, has become so much a byword in the bread and restaurant business that its products and packaging are being imitated, "but not equaled," by competitors.

The name "Pedrito's" was an idea of Pedro, who recalled that when he was a boy, his mother would yell "Pedrito" when he was being mischievous.

The bakeshop-cum-restaurant has gone a long way from the makeshift eatery that occupied the couple's garage in 1975 in Tapuac District here, about a kilometer from the downtown area.

Pedro was then managing a commercial financing company while his wife Erlinda was a bank cashier. Both are graduates of business administration, Pedro from the Ateneo de Manila University and Erlinda from the University of Santo Tomas.

While she was earning well at the bank, Erlinda, now 62, had plenty of free time after office hours and was bored.

"Since I am fond of baking, I started baking cookies and pastries when I got home and sold the baked goodies to my officemates and the bank's clients," she said.

In 1975, Erlinda received a P13,000 profit share from the bank she was working and convinced her husband to invest it in a restaurant business instead of just putting the money in the bank.

The couple redesigned the house garage like a *nipa* house and started selling *bibingka* and ice cones to go.

"Office workers would pass by to buy *bibingka* as *pasalubong*," Erlinda said. She would also call up her friends in other banks to place orders for *bibingka* and had a worker deliver the orders.

Why *bibingka*?

Erlinda said she and her husband decided to sell *bibingka* because the rice cakes sold in Dagupan at that time were "very plain, cooked with fire on the bottom and fire on the top."

PEDRO and Erlinda Tordesillas smile at the sweet success of Pedrito's Bakeshop and Restaurant in Dagupan City.

PHOTOS BY RAY ZAMBRANO, PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

PEDRITO'S Bakeshop owner Erlinda Tordesillas never gets tired of baking cakes and other pastries.

The entrepreneur in her saw that she could create a market for special baked *bibingka* made with pure *galapong* (ground rice) and topped with *kesong puti* (white cheese) or salted eggs.

Since her bibingka was best eaten hot, direct from the oven, her customers asked her to put some tables and chairs in their garage so they could eat it right then and there.

So she put up a garden set where her customers could sit and enjoy the freshly baked *bibingka* and ice cones.

She said her customers were a "little demanding," asking her if she could offer other food, so she baked *ensaymada* and some pastries.

"There must be something in my cooking because whatever I put out were sold out," Erlinda said.

Still, her restaurant was a mere home-based industry and the daily earnings would amount to only P40 to P70.

Since Erlinda was still working at the bank, she hired a girl, named Dina, to "bake, wait for the customers and do other odd jobs."

She said Dina stayed with them for 15 years until she got married to a foreigner. The Tordesillas couple also hired a boy, named Francis, as a helper and sent him to college.

It was not long before Pedro and Erlinda would quit their respective jobs to concentrate on their budding business. They said it was their friends and customers who saw the business' potential and urged them to focus on its growth.

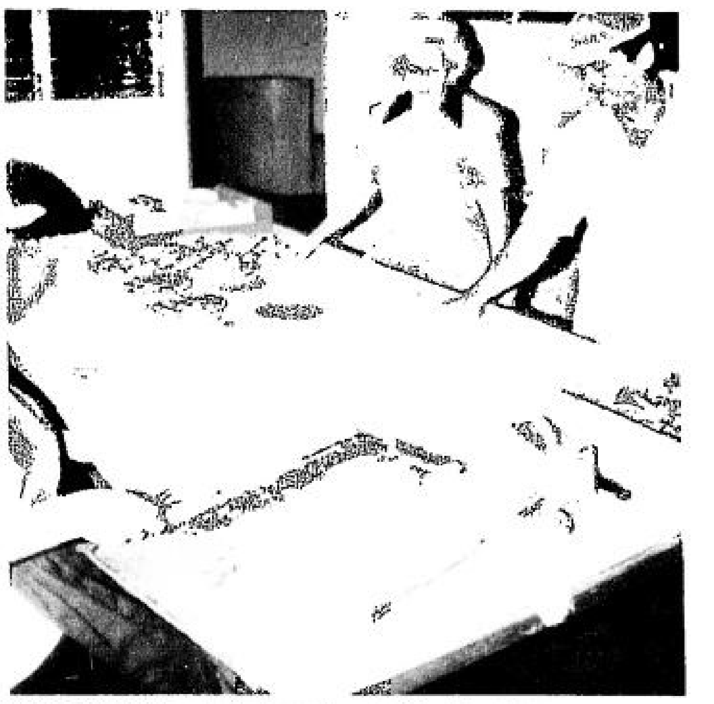
A Chinese-Filipino friend offered them a space on Perez Boulevard to put up an outlet for the baked goodies. When the lease contract expired in 1979, Pedrito's transferred across the street, opening a cozy restaurant and offering a wider range of bakery products.

Since Pedro is an Ilonggo, the couple decided to offer specialty food from Iloilo like the La Paz *bachoy* and *pancit molo*, which were instant hits with Dagupeños.

But in 1990, Dagupan fell on its knees with the intensity 7.7 earthquake. Many buildings in the city were damaged.

The economic depression that pervaded Dagupan did not spare the enterprising couple.

"It was really a trying time. We wanted to give up then, but we had loyal employees that we felt we were responsible for. So we decided to transfer Pedrito's to its original site at Tapuac," Erlinda said.



THE COUPLE treats their workers well so they stay.

They hired their waiters, cooks and bakers as construction workers to put up the Pedrito's restaurant at Tapuac.

It was a bold decision because Tapuac was not considered a business hub then. But loyal patrons followed, and Pedrito's was bustling with customers again.

In 1994, Pedro and Erlinda bought a lot at the back of their house. So the restaurant and the bakeshop were expanded to accommodate their growing clientele.

Some years later, the couple opened a branch on Arellano Street here, in partnership with Erlinda's former officemates.

Erlinda described her ability to succeed in business as a God-given gift.

"There must be something in me? I can't really explain it," she said.

But she admitted that she and her husband invested a lot of hard work and determination to come up with quality but competitively priced products.

"We also go with the times," Erlinda said.

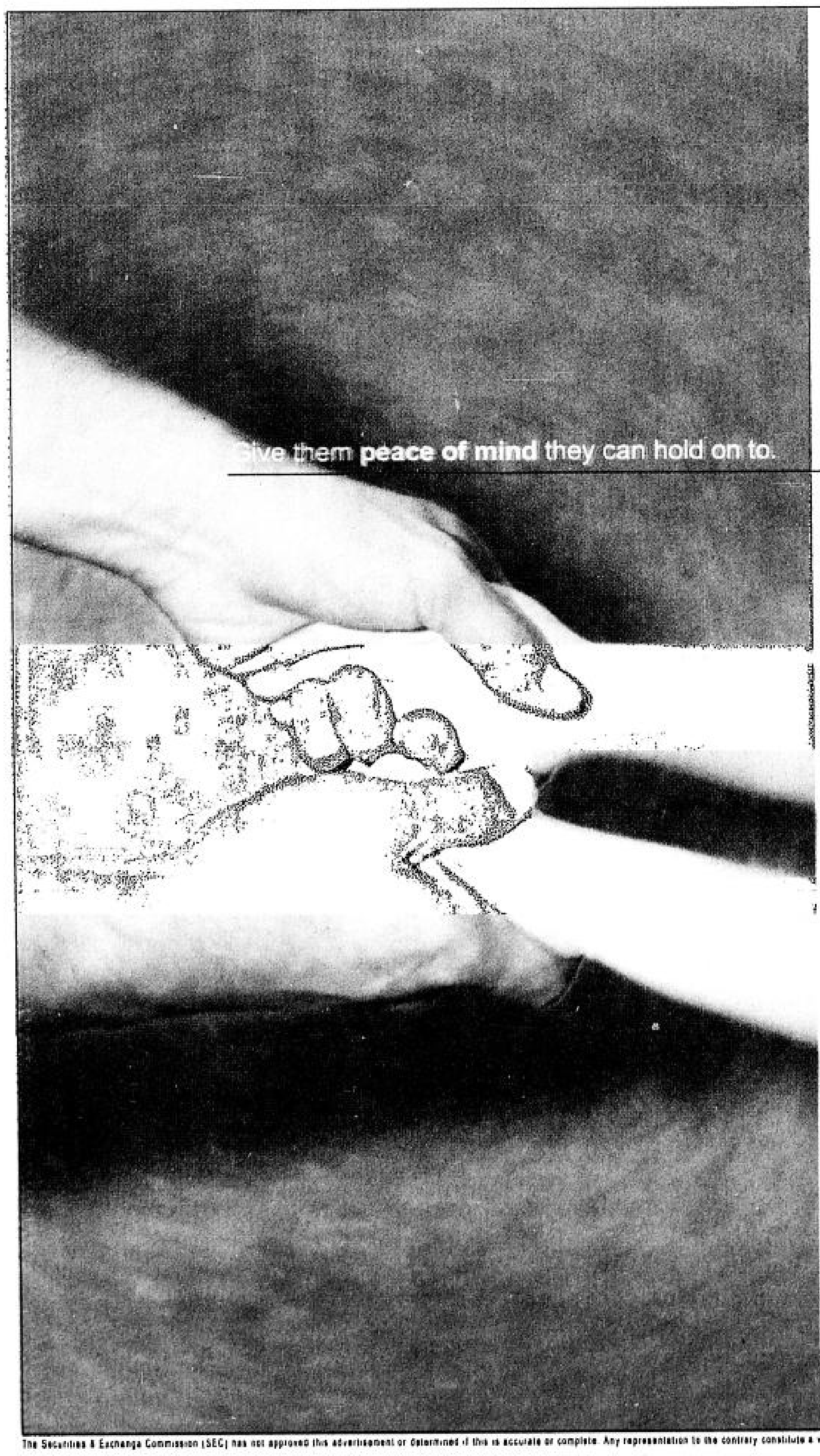
For instance, when the bake-off (the bread is baked in front of customers) was a fad, Pedrito's put up one. When the café became a trend, the couple rearranged a part of the restaurant to a café. There is also an ice cream corner (exclusively made for customers by Pedrito's) that sells 16 flavors of the frozen delight.

But it must have helped that Erlinda was "adopted" by her grand aunt, the late Ignacia Bernal, who pioneered the 75-year-old Dagupeña Restaurant, a legend in the city.

"I learned a lot from her," she said.

The couple treats their workers well that most of them have stayed (with them). Three workers—baker David Taniedo, cake decorator Flory Caramet and cook Fernando Maningding—have been with Pedrito's for 25 years.

"Our faith in God sees us through," the couple said of their success.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If you think RP has too many malls . . . more are coming

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

ONE of the first things that visitors would notice about the Philippines is the proliferation of large shopping malls and retail outlets.

For a third world country with limited purchasing power, it would seem that there are too many malls. But truth is, almost all are doing good.

A study by property research firm Colliers Jardine Philippines released in April this year showed that the retail sector continued to outperform the other real estate developments, proving the sector's resilience amid a steady-moving economy.

And because the retail sector has been doing well, the established players such as the Ayalas, SM and Robinsons groups as well as some new entrants are out to build even more malls.

Business Friday features here some of these new major developments.

Market! Market!

Most of the malls of the Ayala group have been mainly targeted at the upper segment of society, but there have been steps to diversify its product range to capture the broadening middle market.

Its latest project to appeal to this market is the Market! Market! themed shopping center in Fort Bonifacio, Makati City.

Ayala vice president Rowena Tomeldan says in an interview that the Ayala group wanted to come up with a unique shopping center that would appeal to a broader range of society.

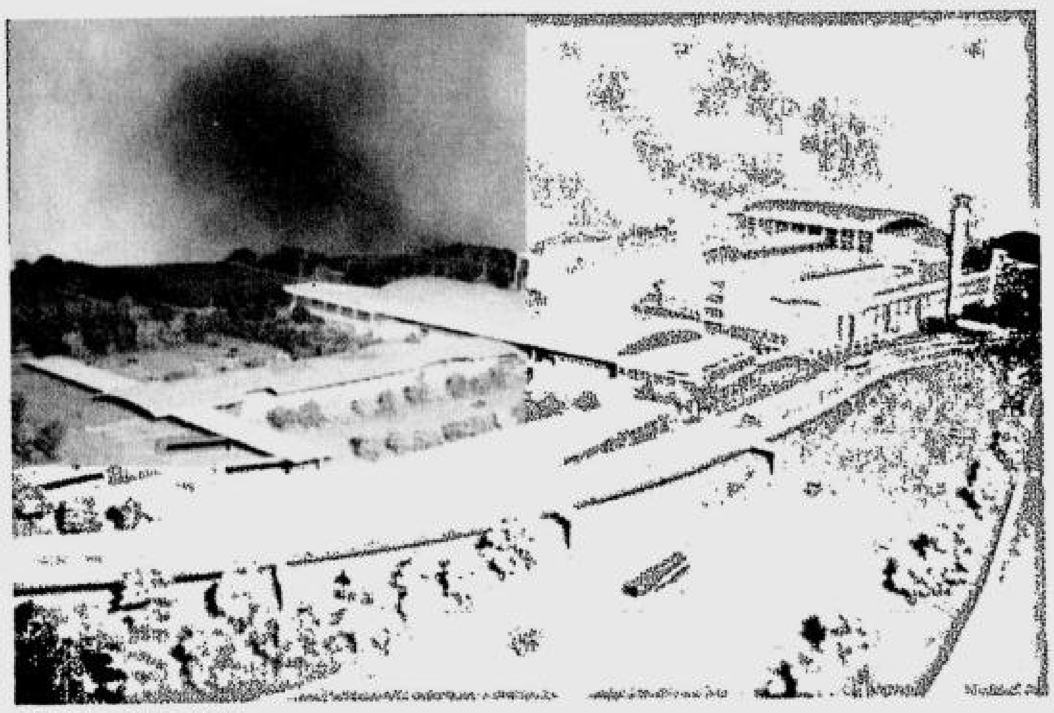
Since bazaars and small hawker stalls are very popular in the Philippines because of the low prices of the goods, Tomeldan says Market Market's aim is to bring in the best of these small entrepreneurs under one roof.

"We want to bring in the best of Tutuban (known for textile), Binondo (Chinese goods) and Greenhills (imported goods) in one shopping center that is comfortable and safe," Tomeldan says.

Some of the retail spaces of the Market Market mall will be as small as 12 square meters to accommodate the small retailers. Rents will also be cheaper.

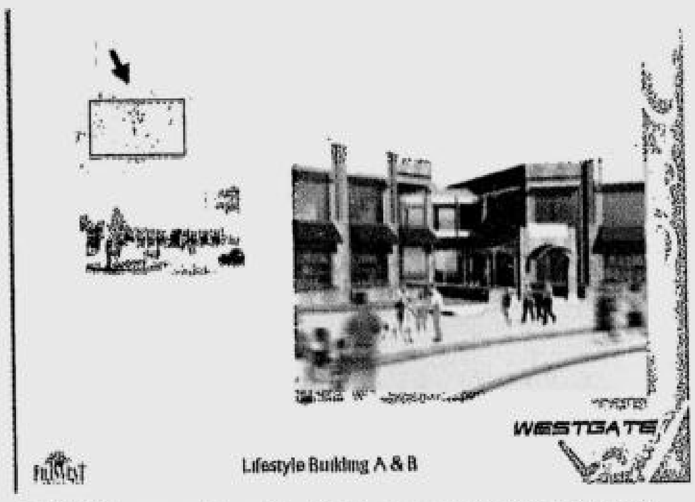
Market Market has 150,000 square meters in leasable space. About 70 percent would be allotted for traditional retailers with outlets in malls, and 30 percent to the themed bazaars which would cater to the small shop owners.

Market Market is not the Ayala group's first venture into the middle market—it has the Pavilian Mall in Biñan, Laguna (a province south of Metro Manila) and Metropoint in Pasay City.



MARKET of the future

Market Market, however, is its biggest mall so far that targets the middle market. It is expected to be completed by 2004, with the first phase to be opened by early next year.



ARTIST'S perspective of the Westgate center of the Filinvest group

Westgate Center

If the Ayala group is going middle market, property developer Filinvest Alabang Inc. is going high end through its new lifestyle center called "Westgate" within the Filinvest Corporate City in Alabang, Muntinlupa.

Westgate, which is expected to be on stream by September this year, will combine entertainment and shopping.

And since Filipinos' concept of entertainment is mostly related with food, Westgate will provide space in the evenings for al fresco wining and dining, thus, making it virtually a 24-hour operation.

Westgate sits on a 9.5-hectare property accessible to three major road networks. This second mall venture of the Filinvest group is expected to draw traffic from the high-end subdivisions in the area.

A SHOP in the new Podium mall of the Shoemart group

The mixed-use development will cover three sectors: the "Home Precinct" will feature home furnishing, fitness-gym and spa, coffee and deli outlets.

The "Central Precinct" will have fine-dining restaurants as well as clubs and bookstores, sports and hobby shops, while the "Auto Precinct" will feature retail and accessory stores as well as showrooms and service centers alongside quick service restaurants and convenience stores.

Targeted at the high-end of the retail market, it has already attracted international anchor and local stores such as Fitness First Gym and Spa, Country Waffles, Brothers Bruger and Twist by Minggoys.

Designed by Australian-based architectural firm Davenport Campbell, Westgate's layout will offer increased parking and convenient traffic flow.

Peripheral tracts will be developed for more retail offering, offices and hotel and restaurant spaces.

Bucking flat rates of growth in the real estate sector, the Filinvest group is bullish on the prospects of Westgate because of its day-to-night concept that promised a complete and well-rounded shopping and lifestyle experience.

The Podium

The SM group is another mall developer that is out to get a share of the high-end market through its new The Podium project in the Ortigas Center.

A joint venture between the SM group and Singapore-based Keppel group, The Podium is a five-level shopping mall located near the headquarters of the Asian Development Bank.

The project is the SM group's first venture into the high-end shopping segment after developing more than 11 malls across the nation that cater mostly to the lower and middle-income classes.

SM and Keppel were bullish about the prospects of another high-end mall because of their expectations that the economy would improve, thus, bring in more shoppers to the malls.

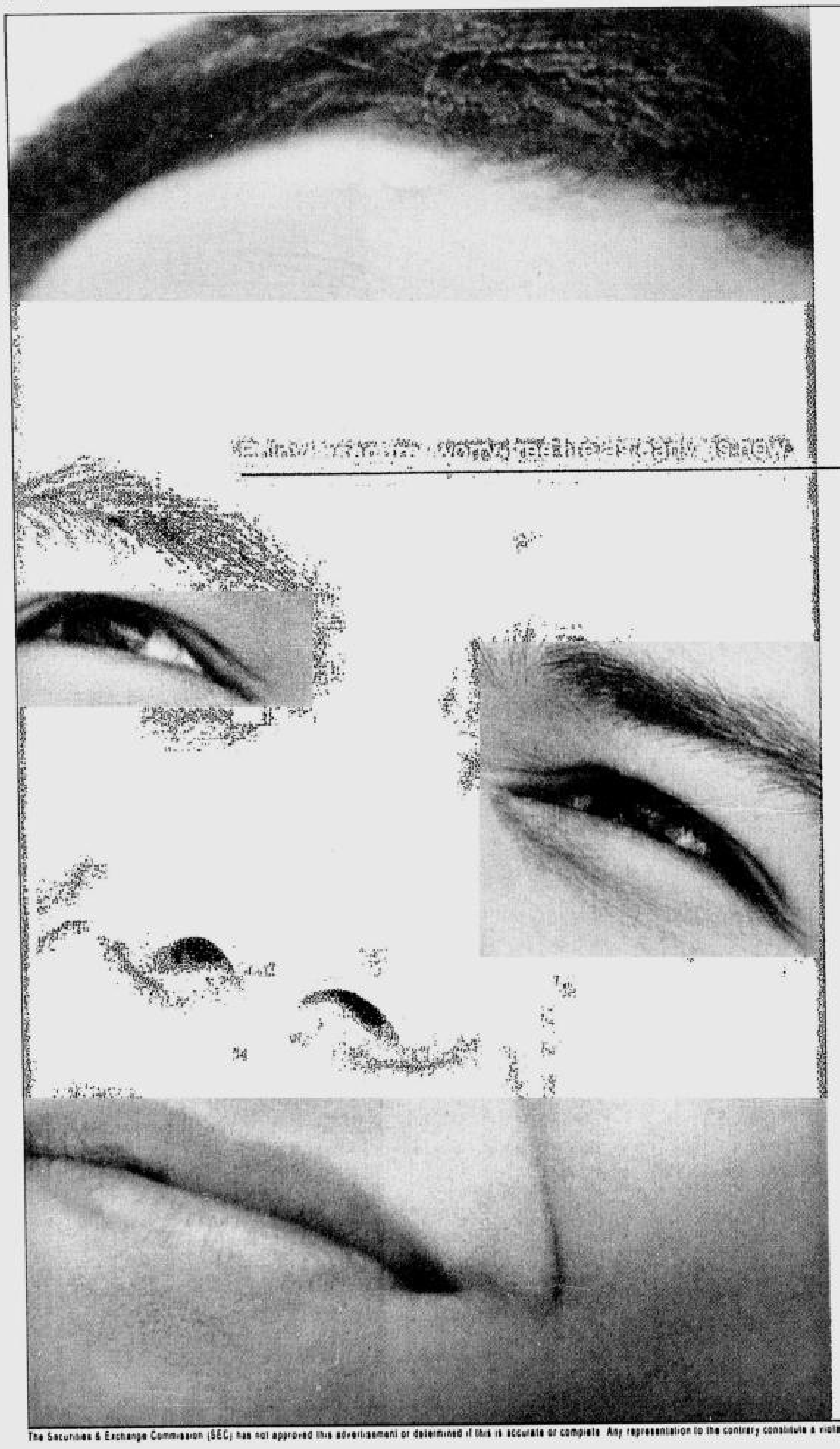
The Podium, which was completed in December last year, has a gross floor area of 27,974 square meters, with a six-basement parking area.

Unlike other SM malls, it would have no cinemas but would have a wide range of dining outlets to cater to the employees working in the Ortigas central business district, the second busiest after the Makati central business district.

The Podium is only the first phase of the real estate development project of SM and the Keppel group.

The Podium is master-planned to link to various components of a future mixed-use complex called SM-KL Towers.

The complex is envisioned to have two office towers and a residential tower.



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US ads shifting toward non-American groups

NEW YORK—The big black gorilla being offered candy and a banana by a blond girl got Rong Chen's attention. But when the television commercial was over, he simply scratched his head in amazement. What were they trying to sell?

American viewers would immediately see the gorilla's resemblance to King Kong of Hollywood movie fame. But that point of reference is lost on many new arrivals like Chen.

"Sometimes I don't get what the advertisers wanted to say, although it could be something very popular and easy for Americans to understand," said 26-year-old Chen, who left China more than a year ago to start a new life in New York City.

Cultural relevance and sensitivity are key issues that American companies have to tackle as they tap into the fast-growing ethnic population in the United States, said Bill Imada, chair and chief executive of Los Angeles-based Imada Wong Communications Group.

The agency, which specializes in Asian language advertising, has seen meaningful growth as more American firms look for better approaches to ethnic customers whose cultures, habits, tastes and traditions have long been unexplored territory for corporate America.

A rapid expansion of ethnic groups in the United States has shifted more advertising dollars toward consumers whose mother tongue is not English.

Bank of America Corp. has tripled its multicultural ad spending to $30 million out of total budget of $100 million for 2002.

"It's critical to speak to (ethnic customers) in their languages," said Tom McDermott, area vice president for North America outbound of Western Union, which currently advertises in 27 languages across America.

Over 11 percent of the American population, or more than 31 million residents, were foreign-born. Among them, more than 21 million speak English "less than well", according to the Census data for 2000. The figures were up from 2001 levels of 19.7 million and 13.9 million, respectively.

Getting the messages delivered

Of all the things that distinguish immigrants from the folks in their adopted country, language seems to be the easiest one to surmount. Yet it's not always easy to find an equivalent expression in a foreign language.

It is tough to explain "energy conservation" to someone, whose language does not contain a proper word for "electricity," Imada said.

A fast-food company dropped its plan to convert an existing ad campaign to target Vietnamese customers, as the translation into that language read, "Our delicious hamburger makes your saliva dripping," Imada said.

Even when the language barrier is cleared with the help of dictionaries, more work is needed to get ideas and concepts across to consumers.

"It's very difficult to explain traditionally Western ideas of a product or service to people, say from Laos, to understand," he said.

Imada's staff has a tough task explaining things such as pizza topping to Asians—why Americans put pineapple on their pizza, or why they smother the top with a strong-smelling product like cheese.

"(Companies) need not just to know the community but to taste it too. You have to really feel the community, see how they operate and think and work and understand their decisions," said Imada. "Companies are not doing that very well."

Cultural difference rather than language has emerged as the crucial issue, said Julia Huang; board member of Asian-American Advertising Federation. She said American advertisers should make stronger commitments and be more tactful and patient when targeting ethnic consumers.

"Some ads just totally turn me off," she said, citing a recent one against eating dog, posted by an animal rights group.

People from countries like Korea, Thailand or Vietnam, where that has been an accepted practice, will find it difficult to understand why they are considered barbaric by some Westerners.

In the end, small, culturally relevant details will make a sales campaign successful, Imada said.

He noted that one company included 24 ways to promote health in its brochure. It was not aware that number 24 sounds very similar to "yi si" which means "easy death" in Cantonese.

This certainly would not be welcomed by many Chinese consumers.

When insurers or banking service providers target ethnic youngsters and expect them to educate their parents, they might not realize that it would make some immigrants uncomfortable to be made to feel their kids are learning faster than they are.

Looking inside the biggest advertising show on earth

By David Guerrero
Contributor

THE INTERNATIONAL Advertising Festival is held every June in the glamorous French resort town of Cannes. The location is no coincidence. The weather is sunny, the food is superb and it lets the makers of 30-second commercials, sorry, "films" think they're George Lucas or Steven Spielberg.

Like its counterpart though, this Cannes festival is serious business. It is now in its 49th year. And these days nearly every country in the world enters what it considers to be the best of its advertising.

Why? Well, advertising is a business of creative ideas. And the problem with creative ideas is that there is no telling which one is better than another. Unless you put them to an objective test. In this case the only objective test available is the collective judgment of 20 or so of the world's senior advertising practitioners, voting through a sophisticated electronic scoring system on the thousands of entries from all over the world.

This year, nearly 5,000 TV commercials entered and almost twice as many newspaper ads and posters. Then there's cyber lions to recognize online creativity and media lions: campaigns judged on the way the ads themselves were placed in media—a recognition of how important that function has become.

Although the "shortlist" of work (about 5 percent of the total) is voted on in secret, the remaining judging is done more openly. The merits and otherwise of each piece of work are openly debated.

And while the jury aims to put nationalism aside, there are inevitable differences in the way jurors perceive the merits or otherwise of an ad. This ensures the jury often works late into the night, while their colleagues are out enjoying themselves.

While everyone talks of the pursuit of excellence, there is inevitably some horse-trading going on when it comes to handing out those precious Lions. Traditionally it was said the two main voting blocs were the Anglo-Saxon one of the United States, United Kingdom, Australasia and South Africa. And the Latin one of: Spain, France, Brazil and the rest of Latin America. With consequent voting blocs being formed. The tendencies are a bit more diverse these days. But the only Asian representation tends to be from India, Korea and Japan.

Every year the stakes seem to get higher. The quality of work is always improving. And the sources of it ever more diverse.

This was not a good year for work from the Philippines with only two entries even making the shortlist (congratulations Ogilvy). And it's not because we didn't have good work entered. It's just that the competition is fierce, the results somewhat random (work that won Gold elsewhere can easily disappear without trace) and, well, it helps to be in the room when the prizes are being handed out.

One of the toughest jobs of all is that of jury president, whose task is to get this diverse group to leave their egos at the door and work to define a common standard for the world to work to. He or she also needs nerves of steel to defend whatever decision they arrive at. There have been cases of entire juries being booed off stage by irate delegates.

This year's president was Jeff Goodby, head of the San Francisco-based creative hotshop Goodby Silverstein and Associates—responsible for, among other things, the acclaimed "Got Milk?" campaign. And fortunately for everyone he was widely regarded as having done a good job.

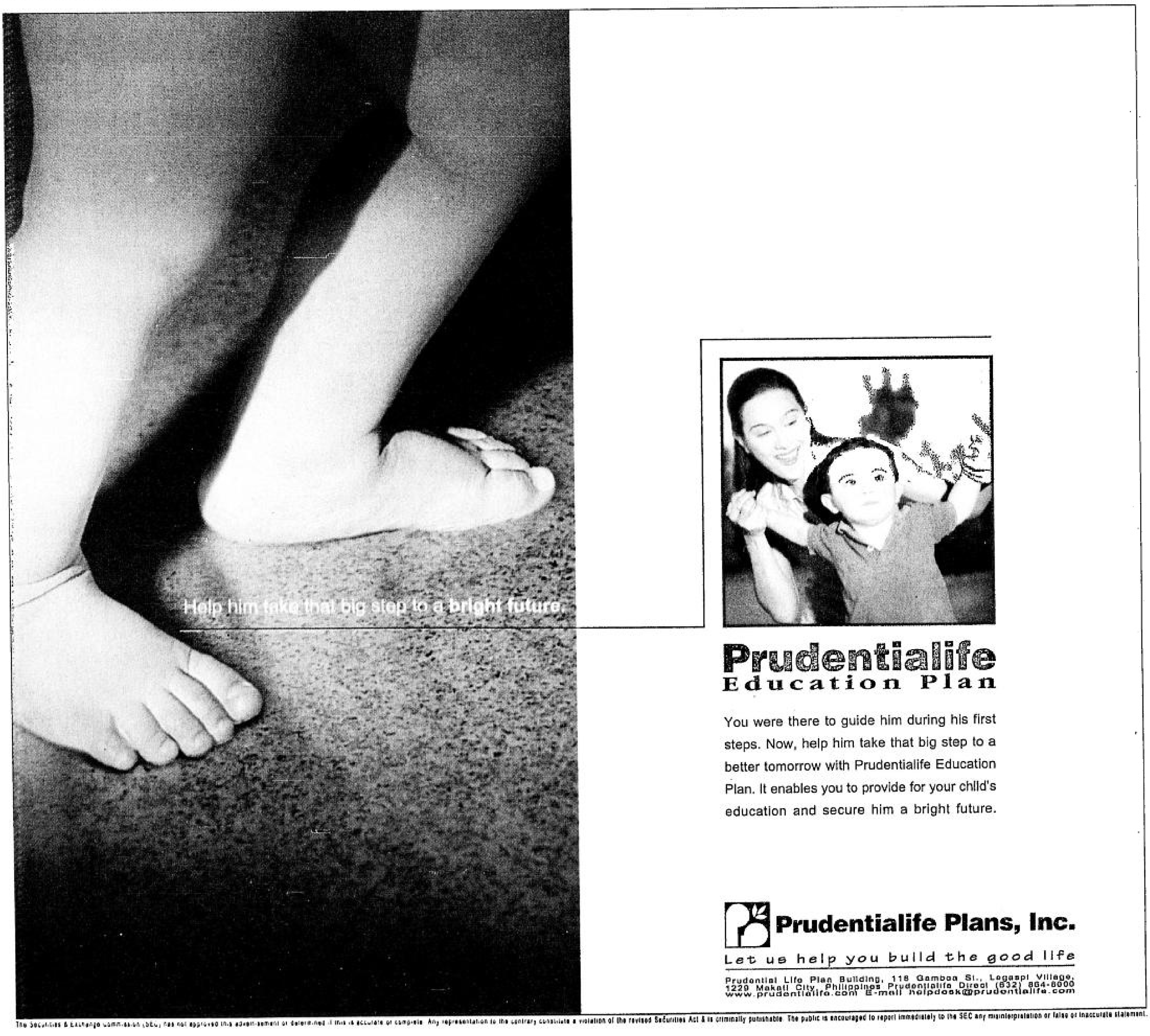
The top TV prize went to Nike's "Tag" commercial from the Weiden and Kennedy USA—an inspired urban fantasy where one man suddenly finds the whole city running away from him after he's been "tagged" in the street. Some Asian pride was felt in that the copywriter was from India and had worked for some time in Singapore.

Lowe Singapore itself won a gold for an IKEA commercial where a dog thinks he's come home to the wrong house after the owner's bought some new furniture.

In Outdoor the top prize, somewhat controversially, went to a brilliant set of posters for the, er, Oslo Body Piercing Studio. Although some members of the press felt this was a rather small advertiser to win such a big prize, the jury themselves were unanimous and pointed out that this was, after all, the biggest body piercing studio in Oslo. None of this worried the agency—Leo Burnett—or the creative director who was a recent visitor to Manila.

However the biggest story of the show was in Press where a cheeky set of ads for singles vacation operator "Club 18-30" (you have to be between those ages to go) picked up the Grand Prix and helped the agency that created them (Saatchi & Saatchi London) to win the Agency of the Year award.

As the pictures show, however, win or lose it's hard not to enjoy yourself when you're in the South of France, at the height of summer and—at least theoretically—at work.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August 15, 2002

Edsa Shangri-la, Manila

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Pacesetter

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6th Placer

AMBROSIO J. MAGPANTAY
7th Placer

LORETO M. TAPALLA
8th Placer

TEODOLFO P. LALUCIS
9th Placer

MICHAEL A. MARQUEZ
10th Placer

SENIOR AREA MANAGER LEVEL

LUCHIE T. MACALINTAL
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DIVISION HEAD LEVEL

ALEXANDER K. MACALINTAL
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ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

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MANILA

MESSAGE

My most cordial greetings to the management, staff and this year's awardees of the Annual Performance Excellence Awards (APEX) 2001 as organized by Cocoplans of the UCPB Financial Services Group.

As you reap the rewards of your exemplary efforts, it is worthwhile to review and acknowledge the role of pre-need services in the lives of our people. This industry supports the Filipinos in their financial needs and provides the much-needed capital that fuels sustainable growth and development of our local businesses.

An integral part of our bid to defeat poverty is economic development, with a conscious bias in favor of the poor and disadvantaged. We want to institutionalize the means by which ordinary people can save and prepare for the inevitable. I encourage every member of your organization to continue to secure the future of our country.

Let us continue working together in our efforts to build a strong republic.

Mabuhay kayong lahat!

Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

Republic of the Philippines
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

MESSAGE

My heartfelt congratulations to all the awardees and delegates of Cocoplans' Annual Performance Excellence (APEX) Awards for 2001 for your outstanding feat.

Considering the many changes that are taking place and affecting the pre-need industry, your sterling performance is indeed worthy of praise and recognition and becomes significant in many ways.

As you strive to elevate the standards of professionalism in the industry, you likewise serve as valuable partners in nation-building, ensuring that the Filipinos we all seek to serve have invested well for their future. Knowing the difficulty of managing change and its resulting challenges, you have truly demonstrated both resoluteness of spirit and resiliency, undaunted by these challenges, thereby serving as inspiration to the industry in these difficult times and as we move forward to an open and transparent capital market worthy of investors' trust.

As you reap the rewards for your excellent performance, keep in mind that their true value lies in knowing that, in these uncertain times, you have helped our countrymen build hopes in their heart as they look to the future. I therefore encourage you to continue this noble mission

My best wishes to you and everyone at Cocoplans!.

LILIA R. BAUTISTA
Chairperson

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SIMPLY AMAZING FEATURE

A little pain, a life to gain

JOHN P. Paycane Jr. did not immediately go to his workstation, as he normally does, upon reporting to work July 3. Instead, he went to the 33rd floor of the Smart Tower and became the first employee volunteer to donate blood to the Philippine National Red Cross that day.

Paycane, who works at the information technology department of Smart Communications Inc., was one of over a hundred Smart employees and subscribers who trooped to the head office in Makati or to one of the strategically located Smart wireless centers in the provinces to donate blood.

"This is my third time to donate blood," he said.

July was the blood donors' month for PNRC. As one of its active partners, Smart not only provides communications support, but also encourages its people to participate in the organization's activities.

For the blood-letting activity, Smart involved the people at the wireless centers in Zamboanga, Cebu, Dagupan, and Legaspi cities. Other partners for the blood donation campaign include the Western Mindanao State University in Zamboanga City and the Department of Health and Bicol Regional Teaching Hospital in Legaspi City.

Jo M. Clemente of Smart public affairs said the company likewise provided a text broadcast service in the provinces, encouraging subscribers to help save lives by donating blood. Indeed, a text message goes a long way.

"This is a good start. Smart plans to continue undertaking blood donation activities and information campaigns for Red Cross for the rest of the year. These activities may coincide with the branch anniversaries of our wireless centers in the provinces, forming part of the company's gift to the community," she said.

"We will celebrate by donating blood or by providing the venue for blood donation by our subscribers," Clemente added.

PNRC medical officer Christie Monina M. Nalupta said donors not only help save lives of those who need blood today. They will also enjoy the benefit of being prioritized when it is their turn to procure blood for themselves or even for their relatives and friends.

"Our aim is to help save lives. When the time comes the donor will need blood, they can go directly to any Red Cross office and they will be given priority. They will be charged only with a minimal fee. They can also procure blood for their relatives and friends. They just need to show their Red Cross card, which is given after they donate blood," she said.

Smart formalized its support for PNRC with the signing of a memorandum of understanding in August 1998. Under the MOU, the country's leading wireless services provider will extend communications support to PNRC, organize a Smart action team, train employee volunteers in disaster management, and coordinate with the PNRC in emergency relief activities.

The tie-up came after Smart first coordinated with the PNRC in its rescue operations near Cagayan de Oro City when a commercial plane crashed in the area in 1998. Teams of Smart employee volunteers were organized to aid rescuers by providing crucial communications posts at the base camps.

Since then, Smart has provided cellular and satellite phones to complement PNRC's Single Side Band and Very High Frequency Band radios. Smart's nationwide coverage enables PNRC personnel to make spot reports from the field where landlines are unavailable.

Smart earlier provided fixed cellular phones to the PNRC station in Legaspi City to help in the conduct of relief operations when Mayon Volcano erupted. Smart volunteers, likewise, distributed relief goods to several hundred families in an evacuation center.

Cellular phones were also made available to the PNRC's Zambales chapter, which is always on standby to assist government agencies deal with the threat of lahar and flash floods caused by the overflow of water from the crated or Mount Pinatubo.

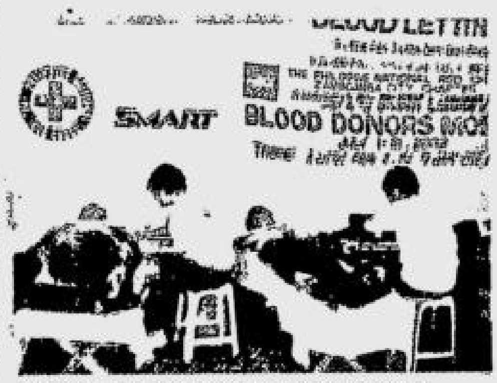
Smart also partnered with PNRC in other community activities such as the food distribution in Mindanao during the El Nino, massive flooding in Southern Luzon, Davao, and Northern and Central Luzon, the Cherry Hills disaster in 1999, the Air Philippines recovery mission, and the Mt. Mayon Watch in 2000.

supersim
FREE

SMART wireless center in Dagupan City becomes a venue for Red Cross' nationwide blood donation activity.

VERON B. Tolentino, manager at the Smart wireless center in Cebu City, gives a big smile while donating blood.

SMART employees get the rare chance of lying down on the bed while on the job. The conference room at the 33rd floor of the Smart Tower in Makati is converted into a Red Cross center to accommodate employee-volunteers.



SMART users and students flock to the parade ground of the Western Mindanao State University after learning of the bloodletting activity through text broadcast.

SOLDIERS save lives not only by courageously fighting thea bad elements of society but also by donating blood.

PAG MEDOCAP AT LAGUNA

On the occasion of the 400th anniversary celebration of the foundation of the town of Santa Maria, Laguna, the public affairs group of the AFPRescom conducted a medical, dental, optometric, deworming, and milkfeeding operation at the town. Over 3,200 patients were treated. Shown, from left, are Col. Ed Ramos (PA), XO PAG, Col. Charito Plaza (PAF), 3rd Air Wing (Res. Cmmdr), Col. Jess Cabarrus (PAF) Commander PAG, Mayor Joel Cuento of Sta. Maria, Col. Ed Lacanienta, Commander NCR (PAG), and Maj. G. Manalo (JAGS) PAG.

BITS Clips

Handyman's Do-It-Best in Pampanga

HANDYMAN'S Do-It-Best, a collaboration between US-based Do-It-Best Corp. and Robinsons Handyman, will open its first store in the country today at Robinsons Starmills in San Fernando, Pampanga. In line with this, Handyman's Do-It-Best will hold a grand opening day sale from Aug. 16 to 18 with up to 50-percent discounts on special products that include home décor and home care items, gardening equipment, electrical supplies, car accessories, tools, and more. A special promo will also be held every weekend starting Aug. 16 until Aug. 31. Do-It-Best Corp was founded in 1945 as Hardware Wholesalers Inc. in Indiana. It now has 4,400 members in 43 countries, which are given access to over 70,000 products. Robinsons Handyman is one of the country's leaders in the home improvement industry with a network of 31 branches nationwide.

Heart-warming foods

THERE are days when you would just want to eat something that is soothing as well as easy to prepare heart-warming foods—food that perks up the spirit on a rainy day, or food that brings back fond memories. Why not try to get new ideas on how to prepare some traditional recipes with a surprising twist? The San Miguel Purefoods Culinary Center invites the public to a cooking demonstration, titled "Heart-Warming Foods," on Aug. 16 at 2 p.m. at the Entertainment Plaza of SM Southmall. Admission is free. For more information, call 671-9876 to 91 local 402-405.

Epiderm-A promo extended

THE EPIDERM-A Match-N-Win redemption promo of The Rogemson Company Inc. has extended to the following outlets with the following schedules: Aug. 16 to 18 at CSI Warehouse Club-Lucao and Magic Centerpoint Supermarket in Dagupan City, and Aug 23 to 31 at Sta. Lucia Department Store. Every P40 purchase of any Epiderm-A Sunscreen and Ladyfresh products customers are entitled to join in the Epiderm-A Match-N-Win redemption game. The participating brands of this in-store promo are Epiderm-A Whitening Lotion, Soap and Facial Cream, Sunscreen Facial Cleanser and Ladyfresh Feminine Wash.

BPI MOST OUTSTANDING COUNTRYSIDE PARTNER

Bank of the Philippine Islands was named Most Outstanding Countryside Partner-Commercial Bank Category during the recent Land Bank of the Philippines Awards held at the Land Bank Plaza in Malate, Manila. The award cited BPI 'in recognition of its invaluable contribution to the development of the countryside as the Most Outstanding Partner (Commercial Bank Category) under the Countryside Loan Fund (CLF) and Agricultural Loan Fund (ALF) programs.' BPI's sub-borrower, Quality Perfect Farm Inc., received a special citation. Shown are, from left, BPI senior vice president Eduardo D. Jose Jr., BPI EVP Gil A. Buenaventura, Quality Perfect Farm Inc owner Filemon S. Tan, Secretary of Finance Jose Isidro N. Camacho, BSP Governor Rafael B. Buenaventura, LBP president Gary B. Teves, and lead economist and acting countryside director of World Bank Lloyd McKay.

Sony leads sales in SM Citibank exhibit

SONY Philippines emerged as the top performer in the SM Citibank Exhibit held recently at Megatrade Hall 2 of SM Megamall, with sales of P12.5 million, or nearly 25 percent of the total sales of P50.8 million contributed by the top 10 suppliers. Sony's sales exceeded by a margin of almost P4 million the next highest total achieved by another supplier during the three-week event.

The exhibit, which offered shoppers advantageous credit terms on consumer electronics and household appliances, was an exclusive collaboration between SM and Citibank. Citibank credit cardholders were able to avail themselves of easy payment terms of up to 36 months, as well as lower interest rates at 15 percent for 12 months compared to the 18-percent interest charged by other credit cards. The event also allowed cardholders to benefit from Citibank's higher average credit limit starting at P35,000 for a new cardholder. Other credit card companies provide an average of P5,000-10,000 for new cardholders, depending on the ability to pay.

Out of Sony's sales from the exhibit, a little over half, or almost P6.4 million came from sales of color TV sets. Other products that accounted for significant portions of Sony's sales were personal video equipment, including Handycams and digital still cameras, followed by audio Hi-Fi components.

Recognition of Sony's role as the leading supplier in the exhibit was extended by way of two awards from the organizers: 1st place for sales achievement, and 1st place for best booth, which took into account the appearance, demeanor and discipline of promoters, and volume of visitor attendance.

The management of Sony Philippines, a majority-owned subsidiary of Sony Corp. of Japan, attributed its sales in the SM Citibank Exhibit and similar other events to the strong trust of consumers in the Sony brand, from the point of view of value, quality, durability, and superior technological innovation. Sony products are designed for network connectivity, enabling them to work together to serve consumers' needs, be it for entertainment or work, at home, on the road, or in the traditional workplace.

Jobs are top prize in Argentine television reality show

BUENOS AIRES—A 25-year-old father and an 18-year-old who supports his elderly parents square off on a television "reality show" for the ultimate prize these days in crisis stricken Argentina: a job.

It happened on the 85th episode of "Human Resources," a daily game show on private Channel 13 that provides a glimmer of hope to thousands of people out of a job (21.5 percent of the population), because of the worst economic crisis in 100 years.

This time around, it was Sergio Romero and Yanina Clavellino who told the viewing public why they were more deserving of employment. But only one can make off with the prize: a job as a waiter in a catering firm in their hometown of Navarro.

At the close of the program, the catering firm surprised everybody by hiring both contestants, providing a truly happy ending to this sort of "reality show," which so far has put 175 happy people into gainful employment.

Romero has been unemployed for 10 months and the only money he has seen is the meager wage he gets for playing the organ in a band formed by some of his neighbors. He lives with his wife and 6-year-old daughter at his parents' home, and dreams of having the money to build a home on a plot of land he has already bought.

Yanina is a student who got together with some of her colleagues to fix up a rural primary school. She works four hours a day in Navarro for $42 a month—the only steady salary in her parents' house where she and her three younger sisters—also all students—live.

"I only get temporary jobs. You have to adapt," says her father who used to work as a carpenter and furniture finisher.

The emotion and the occasional tears shed by the contestants often elicit a similar response among the people in the audience and the viewers at home, many of whom share in the desperate search for a job.

Viewers get to know the contestants from what they say on camera, as their families look on from the audience, and from videos about their lives and comments of their friends previously shot by the studio.

At the end of the program viewers phone in their vote and the winner is announced.

Before going on the air, people seeking to appear on the show are interviewed and the final contestants are chosen by the studio.

While Romero and Yanina were going head to head for the waiter's job, the program announced the requirements people had to meet to compete for "a job at a hotel that provides medical insurance," and as a salesperson at a cleaning firm.

Program directors said that every day between 60 and 600 people show up to fight for the top prize. ***AFP***

NESTOR Ibarra (center), host of "Human Relations" stands next to participants Sergio Romero (left), 25, and Yanina Clavellino, 18, who are competing for a six-month waiter job during the hour-long television show. AFP

Octopus ice cream helps Japanese beat the heat

TOKYO—It would probably have to be a really hot summer before most people would be tempted to try ox tongue or octopus flavored ice cream but Japanese are lapping up the unusual flavors at a special ice cream exhibition.

Odd varieties such as Pacific saury (a type of fish), chicken wings and wasabi (Japanese horseradish), are the cool new treat at the Namja Town indoor theme park in Tokyo as customers take shade from the heat, said Yukiko Ueki, one of the creators of the 100-plus flavor ice cream exposition.

"The ones that seem eccentric are the most popular," said Ueki, noting attendance at the park—which also features rides and role-playing mystery games—jumped 60 percent in the week after the exhibit opened in mid-June.

"People think since they came all this way, they might as well try something strange."

Even Japanese customers—by now used to blends such as green tea, red potato, and sweet bean ice cream which would be distinctly unorthodox elsewhere—were stunned at the array of flavors.

"The salt flavor is actually rather refreshing," said 40-year-old computer engineer Katsuya Tashiro as his family dug into a frozen feast of shrimp, miso (soy bean paste), cafe au lait, crab and salt ice cream.

"But I really have my doubts about putting seafood in ice cream," he said.

Akinori Sato, a 24-year-old university student, said he was sorry the saury did not taste fishier.

"I couldn't taste the saury, even though I was looking forward to it. It turned out to taste just like chocolate."

YUKO Tsukui of Namco presents ice creams in a variety of different flavors at an ice cream exposition at the Namco Nanja Town in Tokyo. Japanese people have taken a licking to unusual ice cream flavors, from cow's tongue to Pacific saury, boosting attendance at the theme park as a scorching summer rolls on. AFP

Ueki said some of the slimier treats had brandy or wine added to soften the fishy kick.

But even she turned her nose up at some flavors.

"As in the case of cuttlefish or octopus, some of the ice creams have the boiled essence of the creature added, so there is quite an impact when you try it," she said. "I don't ever want to put those ones to my lips again."

The treats, sold in small cups for about 300 yen ($2.50) each, are supplied by producers all over Japan, including those representing six foreign countries like Canadian maple syrup or stretchy Turkish "dondoruma" ice cream made domestically.

The expo, put on by arcade game maker Namco Ltd., runs until the end of September.

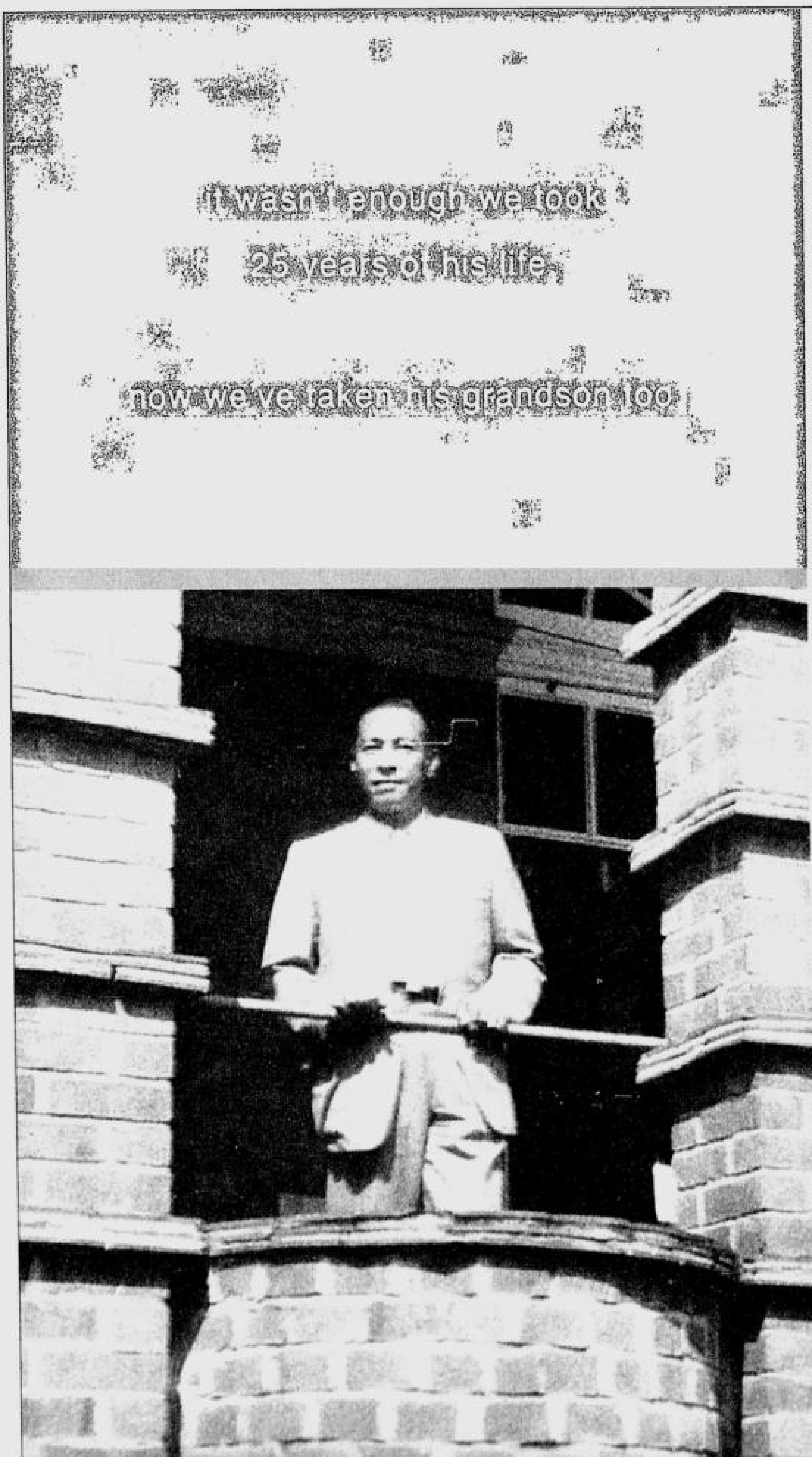
Ice cream "freaks" Satoru Shuto, 20, and friend Miyuki Shimamoto, 21, were making the most of their time, and rated wasabi as the best.

"We've already eaten 20 kinds between the two of us since coming here," said Shuto, adding he and his companion skipped lunch in the process.

No problem, said Shimamoto, a student of nutrition at university. "There is milk and protein inside."

She added that the ice cream made from the notoriously pungent durian fruit was the "strangest."

"The taste and smell really lingers." ***AFP***



it wasn't enough we took
25 years of his life,
now we've taken his grandson too

Standard Chartered

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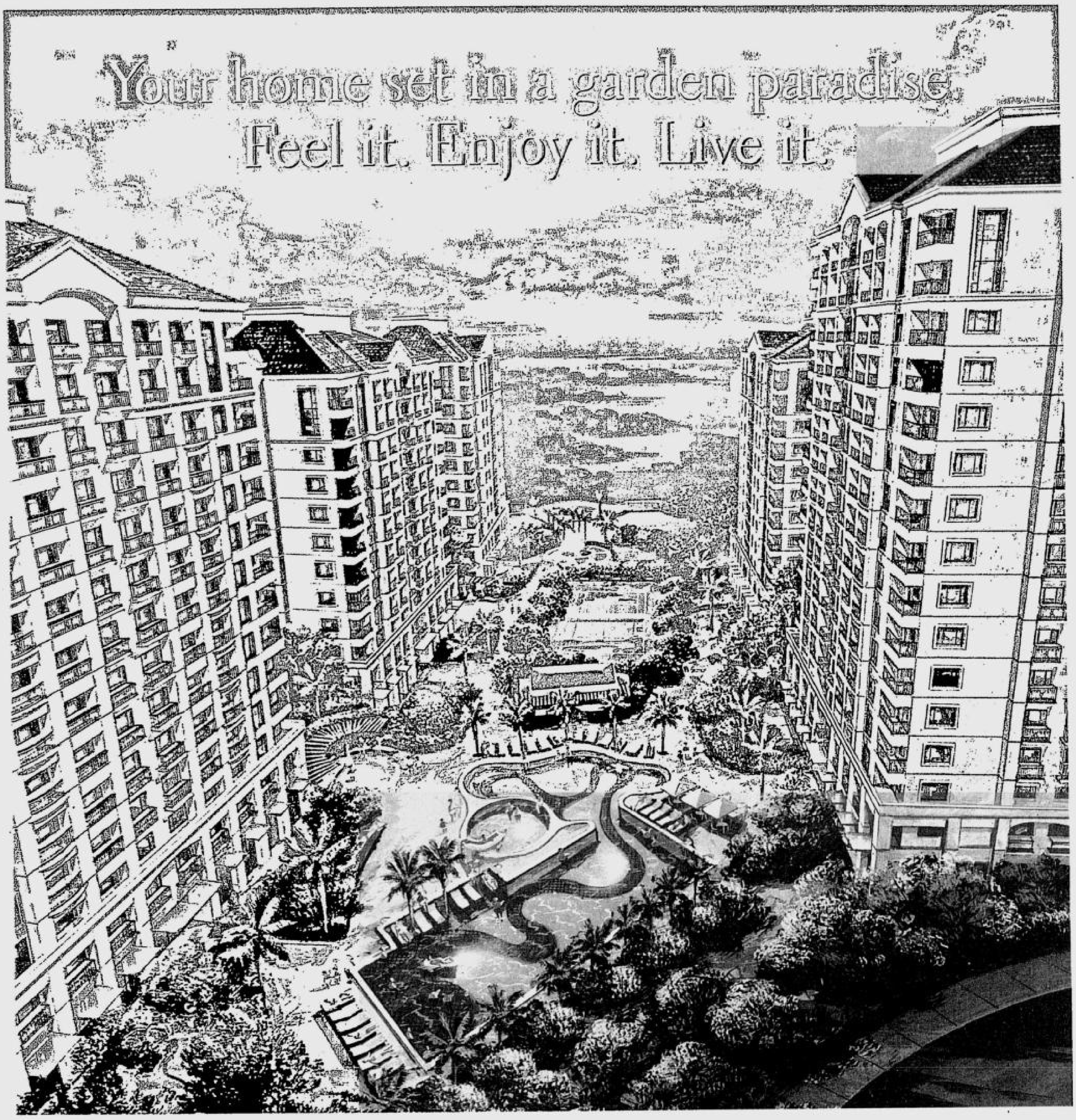
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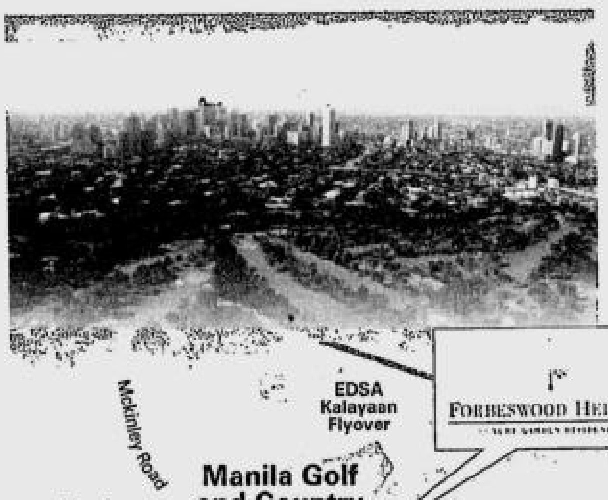
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LIFESTYLE

Trend Spotting

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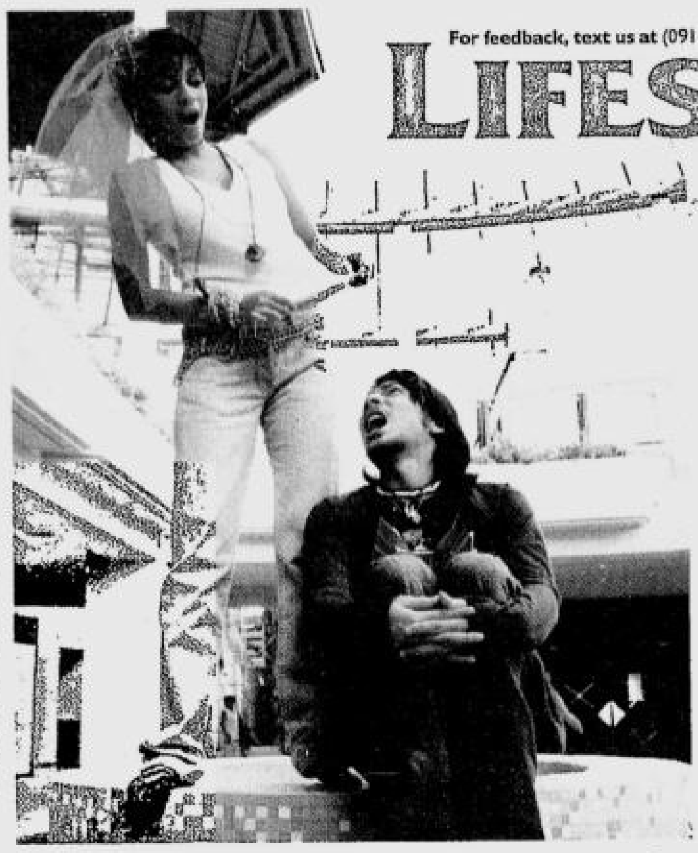

SNEAK PREVIEW. Mylene Dizon wears a pair of light blue slim-fit Zerox jeans, yellow Bounce-d jersey cotton shirt and medium red Rosef leather belt. Ira Cruz dons a medium gray Mihai jersey shirt, a pair of medium blue Ravix trousers and a black Bendi leather belt.

Singles for life?

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Mike Alquinto

CELEBRITY couple Ira Cruz and Mylene Dizon may be the best of lovers, playmates and friends, but you won't be hearing wedding bells soon.

Not that Ira is afraid or unwilling to pop the question. It's Mylene who prefers to brush jt aside for now. "There's no need for it," says the 26-year-old actress. "Anyway, we can get married anytime—even before I die. But I want to have a kid and that has a time limit."

They may behave no different from other lovebirds—kissing and snuggling unabashedly for the cameras in these fashion shoots for Diesel—but theirs is an unconventional love story even by show-biz standards. More unusual still are their views on life and their respective careers.

Second to Myles

"We both have an open mind about marriage," says Ira, 29, former guitarist of Passage and now with Kapatid, a band he recently formed with other "renegades" from some of the country's top bands. "Mylene and I can live with or without it so we've agreed to keep things as they are."

That includes spending a good part of their weekends with Myles, Ira's 10-year-old daughter from a previous relationship.

"I'm kinda jealous of her," she admits. "I know she'll always be No. 1 in her dad's eyes. But Myles is a lovable child and quite smart for her age. She can sit down with us and talk to us like a grownup. She knows the dynamics of the relationship."

And for all that vile she dishes on

SINGLES/ p.D6

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Per DTI-NCR Permit no. 3228 Series of 2002

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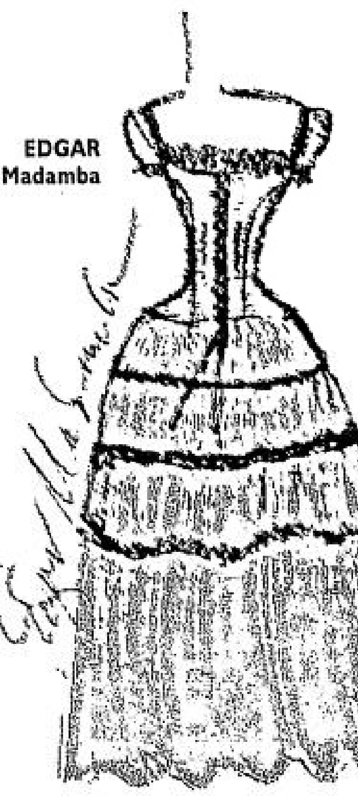
FDAP pays tribute to Ben Farrales in his gala repeat

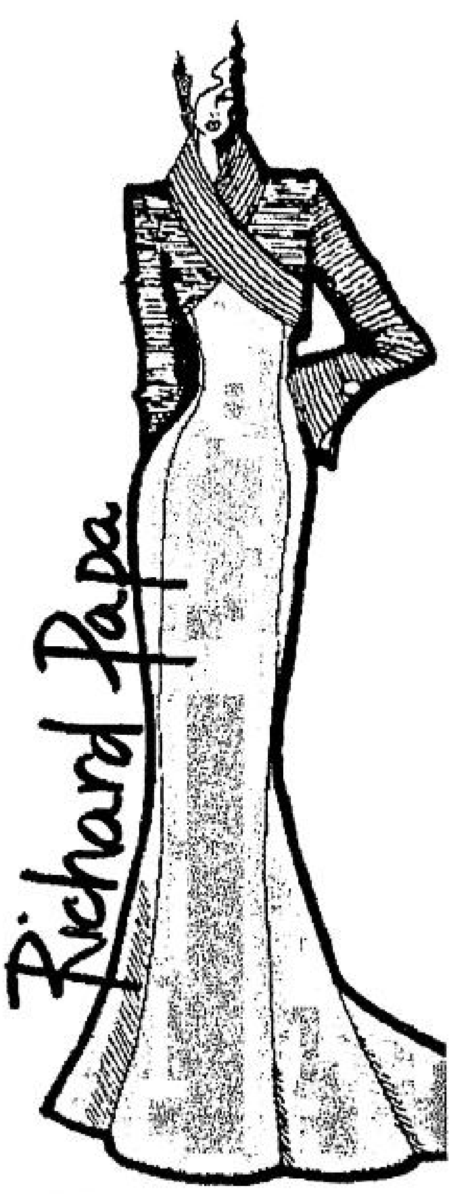


EDGAR Madamba

GENIUS often translates to inspiration, and inspiration is what Ben Farrales undoubtedly gave this generation's designers when he recently staged his gala at the Shangri-La Makati's Rizal Ballroom. Hence, a tribute to a master is in order.

On Aug. 19, the Fashion Designers Association of the Philippines (FDAP) will have a special segment where its member-designers will pay tribute to their Dean at the repeat show of "A Fashion Celebration: 50 Years of Ben Farrales." Each designer will be showing a dress that they did especially for the event, inspired by Farrales' signature glamour and richness.

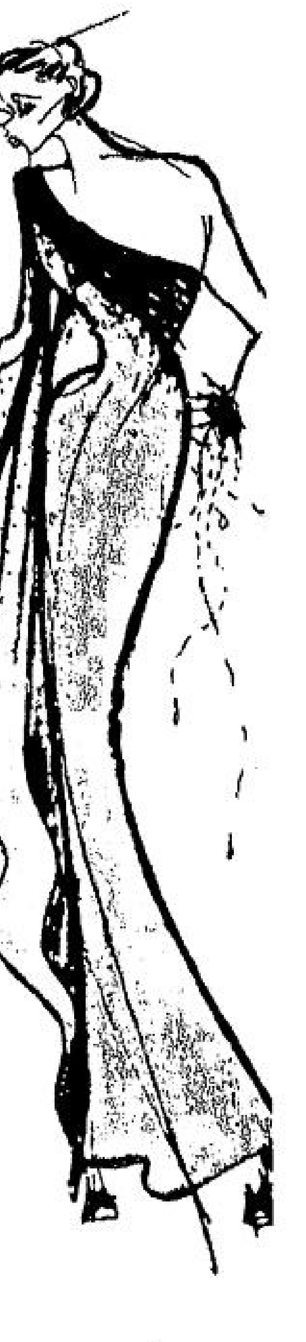
Of course, the event's highlight is Mang Ben's 150-piece collection that shows his mastery of exquisite draping, intricate construction, unconventional techniques and opulent fabrics. The clothes were the talk of the town when it premiered last July, getting rave reviews from the fashion and lifestyle press.



RICHARD Papa

As expected of a Mang Ben event, the gala repeat is about fashion as it is about a worthy cause. This time, "A Fashion Celebration..." will be for the benefit of the recent typhoon victims. Chaired by active philanthropist Mellie Ablaza, all proceeds from the repeat performance will benefit the Philippine National Red Cross for their disaster relief operations. Aside from Metrobank, the show is sponsored by Unilever, Red Cross and the Congregacion de Santo Niño.

Call Ben Farrales Atelier at 525-3421 and 524-8439; Red Cross at 727-6226 and 526-6658; Metrobank at 898-8875; or the Makati Shangri-La at 813-8888.



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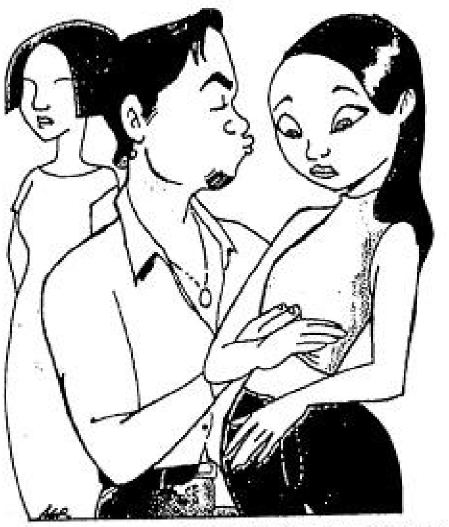


ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

He would marry her if she gets pregnant

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I was so impressed with Jay that I encouraged him to court me even if I knew he had a girlfriend. Now he can't decide between that girl and me.

We've been intimate many times, and I fear that I might get pregnant. But he said that would be okay because, then, he would no longer be confused since he would have no other choice but to marry me.

I feel very happy whenever he tells me that he loves me, but what really keeps me in our relationship is the hope that someday he would choose me. I don't want to be the reason should he break his girlfriend's heart, but I'd be devastated should he choose her.

I don't want to be in this mess, but I'm not sure either if I want to get out of it. Sometimes I think that what I feel for him is just lust and not love, but how can something bad feel so good?

DINA

I'll answer that after you answer this: Is Jay bedding the other girl, too? Because if he is, then Jay might as well admit that, to him, this is just a matter of fertility and chance, and not of love. That might be more exciting than tossing a coin, but it's also quite demeaning to women.

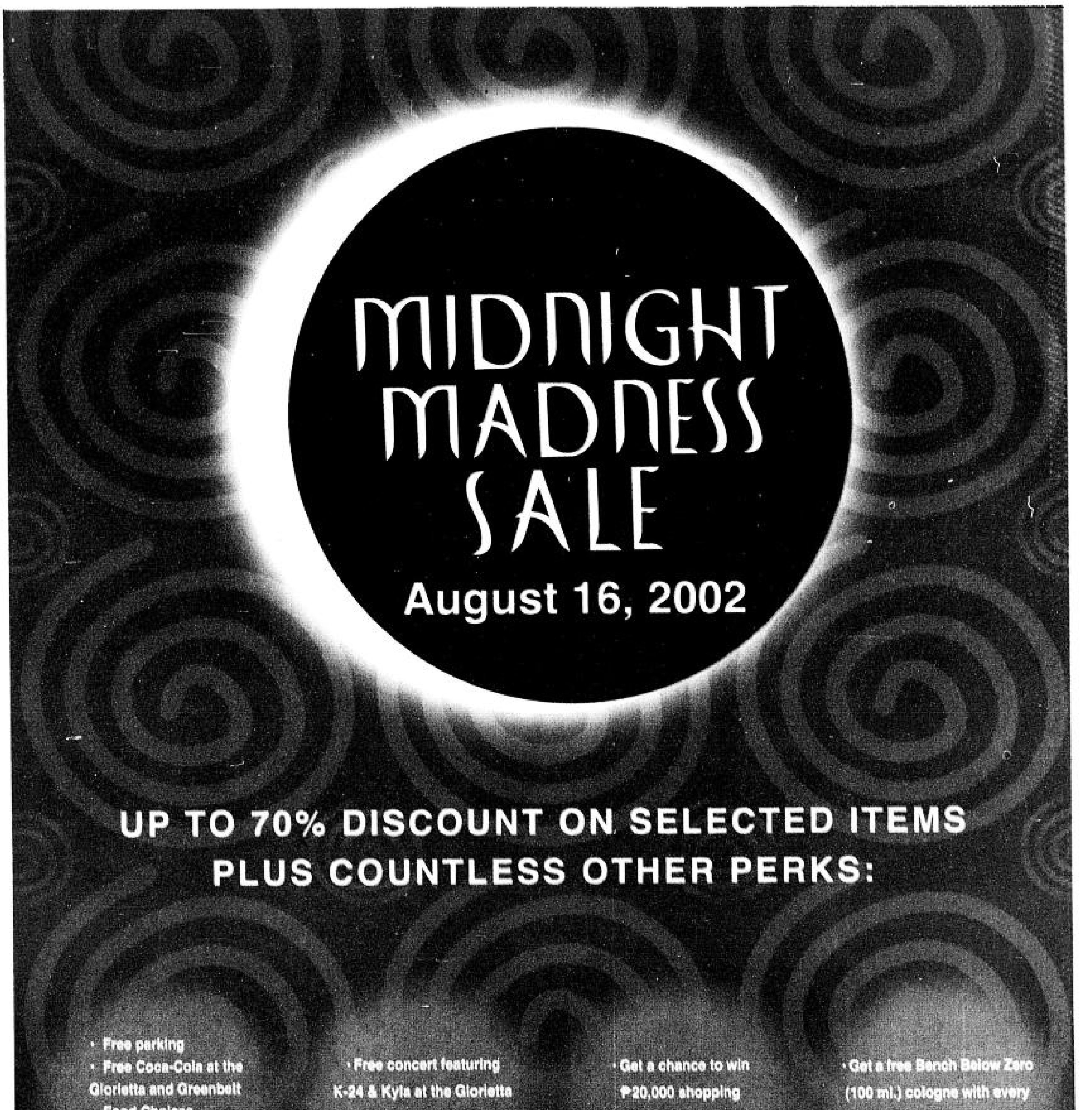
If he still can't decide between you and that girl, why don't you settle it for him? Decide if you love him. You'd know if you do if you could put his happiness above yours—even if that means that you'll let that girl have him if that's what would make Jay happy. After all, you only "borrowed" him from her, and you should be content with the thought that having Jay with you now, no matter how briefly, it is better than never having had him at all.

So, if it is not love that keeps you with him, could it be, you wondered, lust? It could, indeed, very well be that, *hija*. That means if you get pregnant by him now, it won't be accurate to describe your baby a "love child."

Now, back to your question: how could something bad feel so good? Because, in such cases, bad is mixed with good.

Sex, or lust that leads to it, is not bad by itself. In fact, it is good in the sense that—barring human cloning—the perpetuation of mankind depends on it. And sex feels good—it should, if procreation is its goal. If making a baby were as unpleasant as having a root canal, the human race would only be a fond memory by now. That's the point: The natural goal of sex is to produce a baby. Pleasure is not its goal, but only an input to the process. So, when sex is pursued solely for its pleasure and not for the creation of a new life, it may feel good, but it is unnatural and, therefore, bad.

Add to that the fact that you're engaging in it outside of marriage and risking an illegitimate child who'll be burdened with the onus of that status, then you get a better idea of why you feel bad about your intimacies with Jay.



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Flower power meets hip-hoppin' teen

AMANDA Griffin wears a black top, lace trim stretch skirt and belt.

IT'S what you'd call fusion: the merging of influences, tastes or styles. It's been done on music, food and, for years, fashion. Yet, no other local brand has done fusion to breathtaking results better than Herbench, the female counterpart of the country's leading lifestyle and apparel store Bench.

Image model Amanda Griffin wears Herbench's fashion fusion creations to gorgeous results.

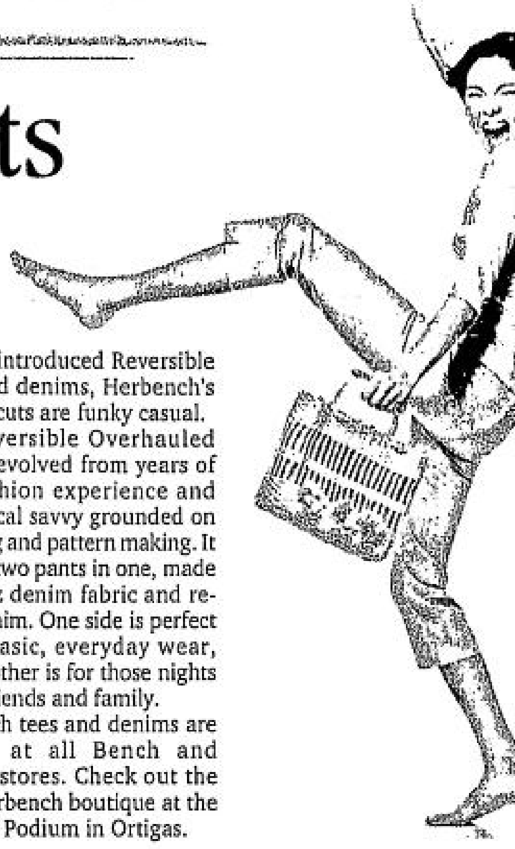
The new collection showcases Flower Power child meets Hip-Hoppin' teen. The styles are more avant-garde, more relaxed with just the right tinge of edgy fun.

From casual tees to Sabrina-inspired blouses, to capri pants and the newly introduced Reversible Overhauled denims, Herbench's styles and cuts are funky casual.

The Reversible Overhauled jeans line evolved from years of denim fashion experience and technological savvy grounded on jean sewing and pattern making. It is actually two pants in one, made from 10-oz denim fabric and reflective denim. One side is perfect for your basic, everyday wear, while the other is for those nights out with friends and family.

Herbench tees and denims are available at all Bench and Herbench stores. Check out the newest Herbench boutique at the 4/F of The Podium in Ortigas.

QUARTER-SLEEVED HerBench top



AMANDA wears quarter-sleeved HerBench top, white leather belt, clamdigger bottoms and a native abaca bag.

ON Amanda: white HerBench top with print and Overhauled denims

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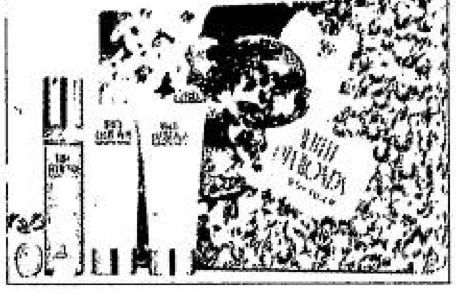

Deadline for entries to hairdressing awards set

THE DEADLINE for the submission of entries to Schwarzkopf's Philippine Hairdressing Awards (PHA) has been set on Aug. 31. Entry forms are now available at the offices of Top Style Marketing Inc. (Schwarzkopf's Philippine licensee) at 25PA Eisenhower Condominium, Eisen-hower St., Greenhills, San Juan.

The search, which aims to recognize, honor and reward exemplary skill and talent in the industry, is open to all professional as well as commercial hairdressers. Among the titles to be given this year are the highly coveted Philippine Hairdresser of the Year 2002 and top honors for the Commercial, Men's Style, Avant-garde and Young Artist categories, and the new Best Creative Team award.

Hairdressers must have a minimum of three years' working experience. Entrants to the Young Artist category, on the other hand, should be below 25 years old and working for a minimum of two years and a maximum of four years.

Four photos (size 18x24 cm) in unmounted black and white or color prints in portrait format must be submitted with entry forms. Contestants may use wigs and hairpieces but not in more than two out of the four prints, except in the Avant-garde category where they can be used in all four prints.

For those who will use wigs and hairpieces or computer imaging, submit Polaroids of the model before the imaging along with a portfolio of prints to demonstrate that you are working on real hair.

Announcement of winners for the PHA will be on Oct. 15. The winners of the contest will represent the Philippines in the Asia Hairdressing Awards 2003 in Hong Kong.

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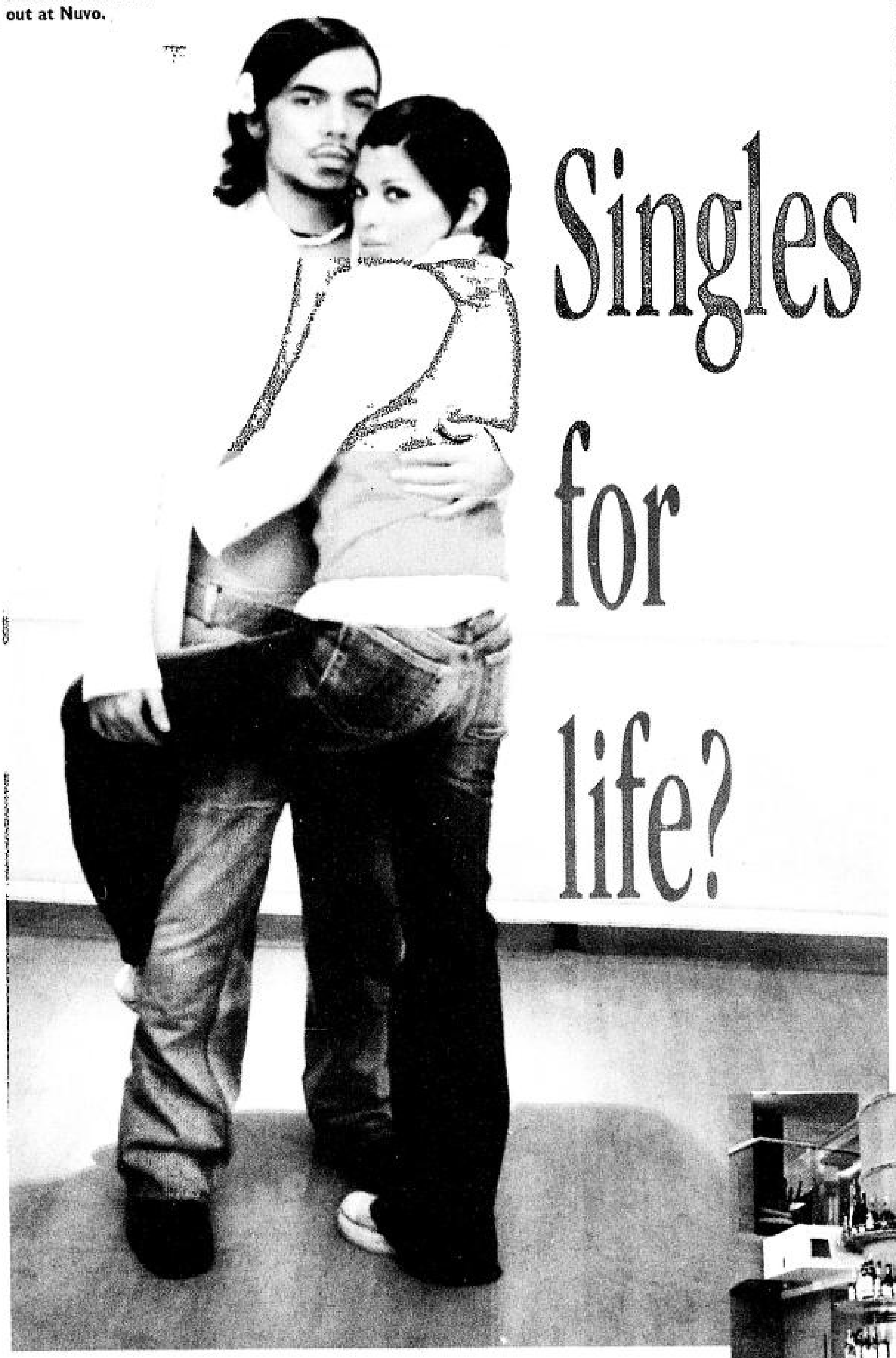
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3188 Series of 2002

Singles for life?



PLAYMATES chill out at Nuvo.

OFF THE WALL. Mylene strikes a pose in a pair of medium blue Daze denim jeans and a deconstructed Gonna Werouch pink top that's actually a skirt. Ira looks cool in a pair of loose-fitting medium blue Rivec jeans and medium pink Camica Lasix shirt in cotton and polyester. He tops it with a medium red Gilety cotton sweater.

Their lives revolved around the same circle of friends and preoccupations until musician Ira Cruz and actress Mylene Dizon found themselves in each other's arms

From page D1

primetime TV, Mylene is no real-life villainess. The cordial relationship extends to Myles' mother, Chichi Malasarte, and Chichi's French husband. In fact, Mylene's friendship with Chichi dates back to their college days at the De La Salle University. The three, including Ira, belonged to a big *barkada*.

Fate

While Ira and Chichi had only eyes for each other, Mylene was seeing someone else. Never in their wildest dreams did Ira and Mylene expect to end up in each other's arms. As fate would have it, however, their paths crossed again several years later.

Mylene, by then, was on the verge of stardom, while Ira was having his share of fame as Passage's resident heartthrob. The initial reunion led to a series of friendly encounters; before they knew it, they were in love and have been so, for, they assume, three years and seven months. "We don't have an anniversary," says Mylene.

Would they have lasted this long had it been a classic case of love at first sight? "I don't know," Ira answers. "We don't put up any show-biz façade. What you see is what you get."

Before they became sweethearts, Mylene had seen how girls would literally throw themselves at Ira. He didn't pay them any heed. "He's very picky when it comes to women," she says.

As far as Mylene is concerned, there's no right or wrong way to start a relationship. If anything, she believes in the importance of giving the other person enough space to carve out his own niche. This dawned on her early on in their relationship.

Ira once invited her over to his house in the middle of composing a song. He was so preoccupied in front of the computer that he forgot all about poor Mylene, who was waiting for him for hours in the living room.

"I had watched the TV, slept, woke up, got bored and still there was no sign of Ira," she says. "He was cocooned in his room oblivious that I was somewhere in the house." The episode, of course, led to their very first fight.

"I began to understand how passionate he is. I'm a big fan of his music, but it's hard to compete with it." So the next time Ira asked Mylene to come over, she made sure he wasn't working on something. "Either that or *sayonara*. Let' just see each other some other time."

Broad-minded

Ira is just as broad-minded when it comes to Mylene's career. When she was offered the lead role in "Gatas sa Dibdib ng Kaaway," she immediately consulted him about it. After waiting for five years in the wings, her launching vehicle had finally arrived and it required her to bare more than her acting mettle on screen.

Ira met Mylene's question with another question. "What's your job, anyway?" "*Artista*." "Then do what you have to do." End of story.

"Those were the most insightful words I've heard from Ira," says Mylene. With that particular episode behind her, she immediately prepared for the role of a lifetime by first having a boob job.

"I have certain misgivings about how the film came out," she says. "But I have no regrets about having my breasts augmented. Now I feel like I'm in 'Baywatch' every time I go to Boracay."

Of course, it was different when they watched the movie together. Having seen the stills and all, Ira knew what to expect, or so he thought. "When I see somebody else's breasts, okay *lang*. But this time, that person is someone close to me, girlfriend *ko pa*, so it was different. I came to it prepared so the effect wasn't as I imagined it to be."

These days, Mylene is basking in her so-called "I love myself" years. In between her show-biz commitments, she hies off to parts unknown to indulge and pamper herself. "No apologies, no buts, no excuses."

Meanwhile, Ira is wrapping up Kapatid's first album, a melange of sounds reflecting each member's respective backgrounds and experiences. "It's rock 'n' roll with a mission," he says of their music. "We're still scouting for a record company, but many have expressed interest in it."

Believe it or not, they have yet to consider living together either. Ira still goes home to dad, while Mylene lives alone in a condo unit. "We're fine right now," she says. "The subject has never come up."

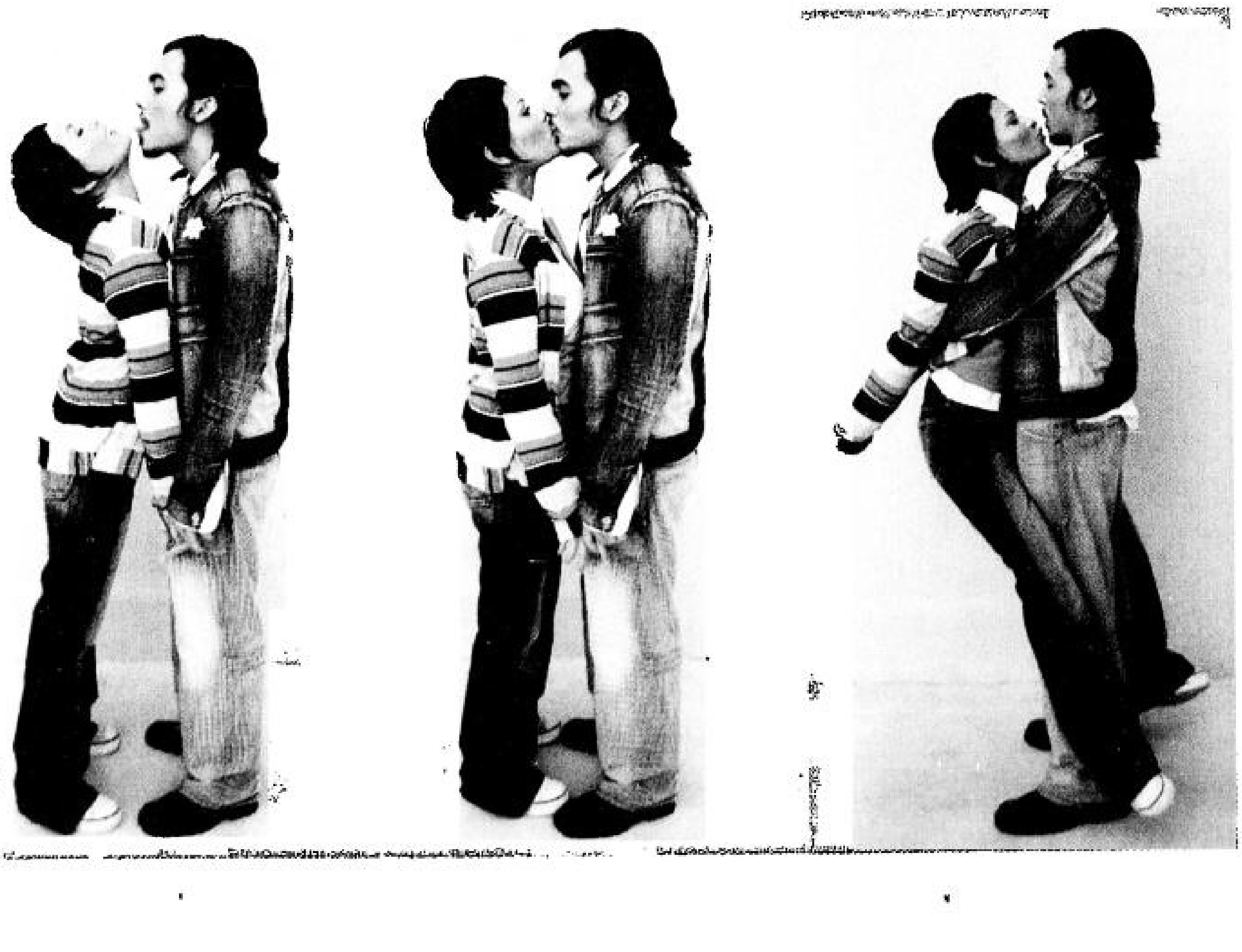
Asked to describe Ira, Mylene likens him to a piece of Mentos: tough on the outside, soft and chewy on the inside.

"Girls think he's a macho man with an attitude. Actually, he's just a big kid. Give him a lollipop and he's happy *na*. He's the happiest person whenever I cook him *adobo, sinigang* or *kare-kare*. He's very easy to please."

Ira finds Mylene smart "in all aspects." He's amazed at how easily she can carry a conversation regardless of the topic and the people she's with. "She knows what she wants—most of the time," he says. "Of course, she's a girl so she can quickly change her mind on any thing anytime." Perhaps even about getting hitched someday?

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

DRINKING BUDDIES. Mylene and Ira sport Diesel outfits by Nuvo's bar area. She wears a pair of light blue Zerox jeans, Natu black cotton jersey top and Mendi leather belt in tan and dark brown. He wears a pair of black Kulter trousers, Raw-Edge medium red cotton shirt and Beni leather belt in black.



ODD COUPLE. In a carefree mode, the pair is caught in a series of poses in these equally bizarre combinations. Mylene hams it up in pair of medium blue Stenx female-fit jeans, medium red cotton Retop top and white Dialy shirt. Ira is quite game in a pair of medium blue Zulu jeans, medium blue Glasty Cut jacket and white Gammi X cotton shirt.

CLOTHES:
DIESEL
STYLING:
LOTHO
HAIR & MAKEUP:
LEO POSADAS
LOCATION:
NUVO AND GREENBELT

CATHAY Pacific's Adrian Harley, Frank Eizmendi and Ed Ticzon

WILLIAM Go, Catherine Weir, Oscar Reyes, Oscar Hilado and Cesar Virtusio

Seats befitting captains of industry

TOP businessmen and government officials gathered at the Taipan Room of the Tower Club recently to see and try Cathay Pacific's new Business Class seat, which was brought from Hong Kong.

The seat has a wider pitch and a longer stretch. Added features include water bottle holder, video on demand and a dressing room with full-length mirror.

Rupert Harhoff of Tower Club and Cathay Pacific's country manager, Adrian Harley, welcomed the guests. Johnny Litton hosted the party, which featured comedian Jon Santos.

Highlight of the evening was a raffle. Marco Polo Club members Marilou Koa and Ronald Cang and Tower Club members Laureano Siy and Reynaldo David won business class tickets to Hong Kong. The grand prize went to Daryll Lewington—a business class ticket to any long-haul destination of his choice.

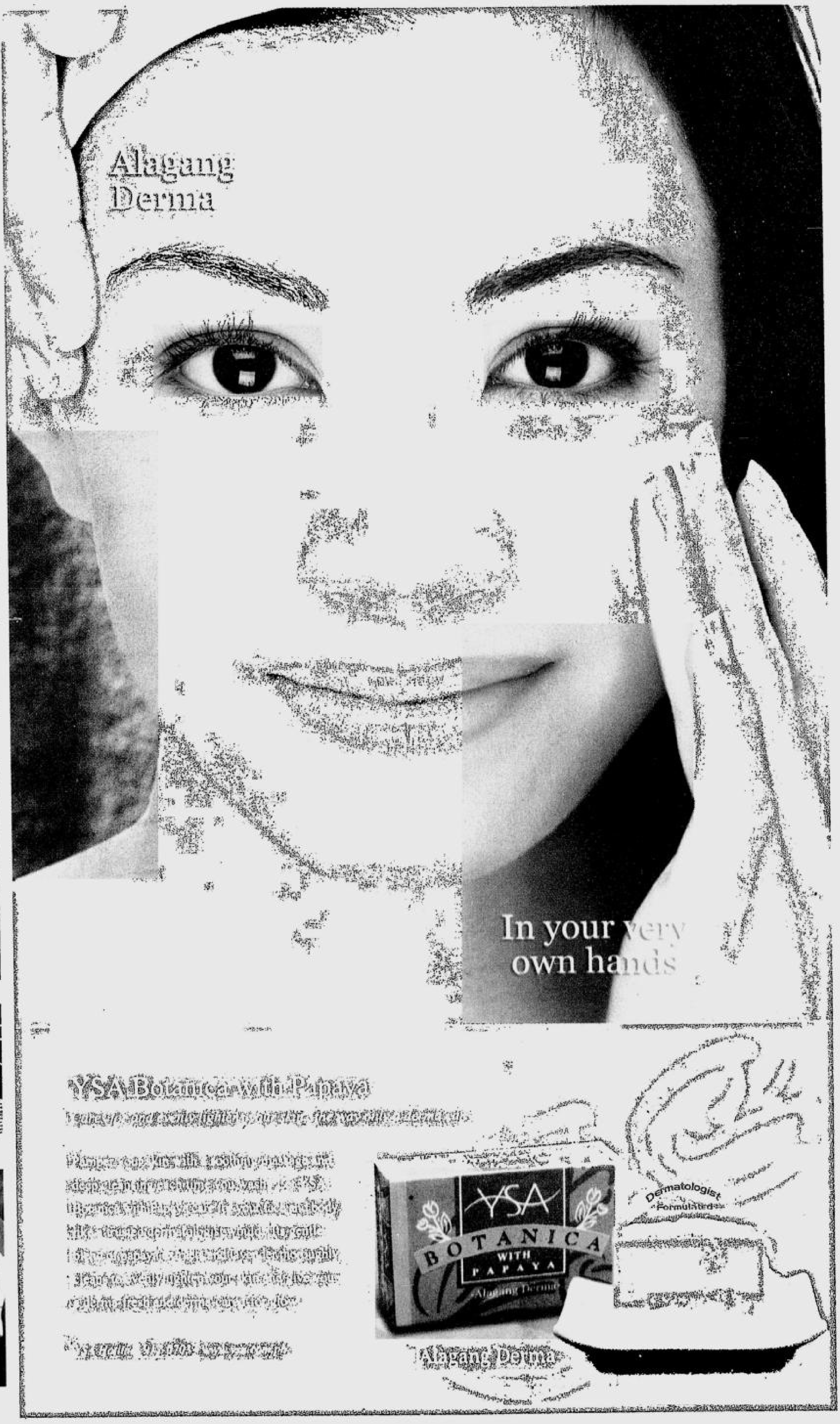
Tower Club took the opportunity to thank top supporters of its Exclusive Rewards Program (ERP) by giving away CX business class tickets. Recipients were Henry Sy Sr. of SM Holdings, two business class tickets to any long-haul destination; Meshelle Villanueva, two business class tickets to Hong Kong; and Dr. Ramon Batungbacal, 45,000 Asia Miles.

CX assistant marketing manager Bettina Palpal-latoc, Teo Joffe and CX marketing supervisor Rowena Romero

SHINE San Luis and Marilou Koa

DR. Ramon Batungbacal, Cyndy Jarabata of Tower Club and Johnny Litton

STEPHEN and Richard Whitworth being assisted by CX's Angeline Manzano



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LIFESTYLE Home

PHILOSOPHY is a haven of unusual gifts.

If a product has made it in Cebu, it can make it anywhere

Cebu's shopping philosophy

By Kitty Go
Contributor

MANY things have been said about the Cebu market and, unfortunately, hardly any of

CEBU'S/ p.E2

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Joanna Valencia-de Jesus,
33, AVP for Finance, interior design student,
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Ultrasound images of the skin structure: First photo shows photodamaged dermis; second photo shows denser structure which implies better support and ability to hold moisture.

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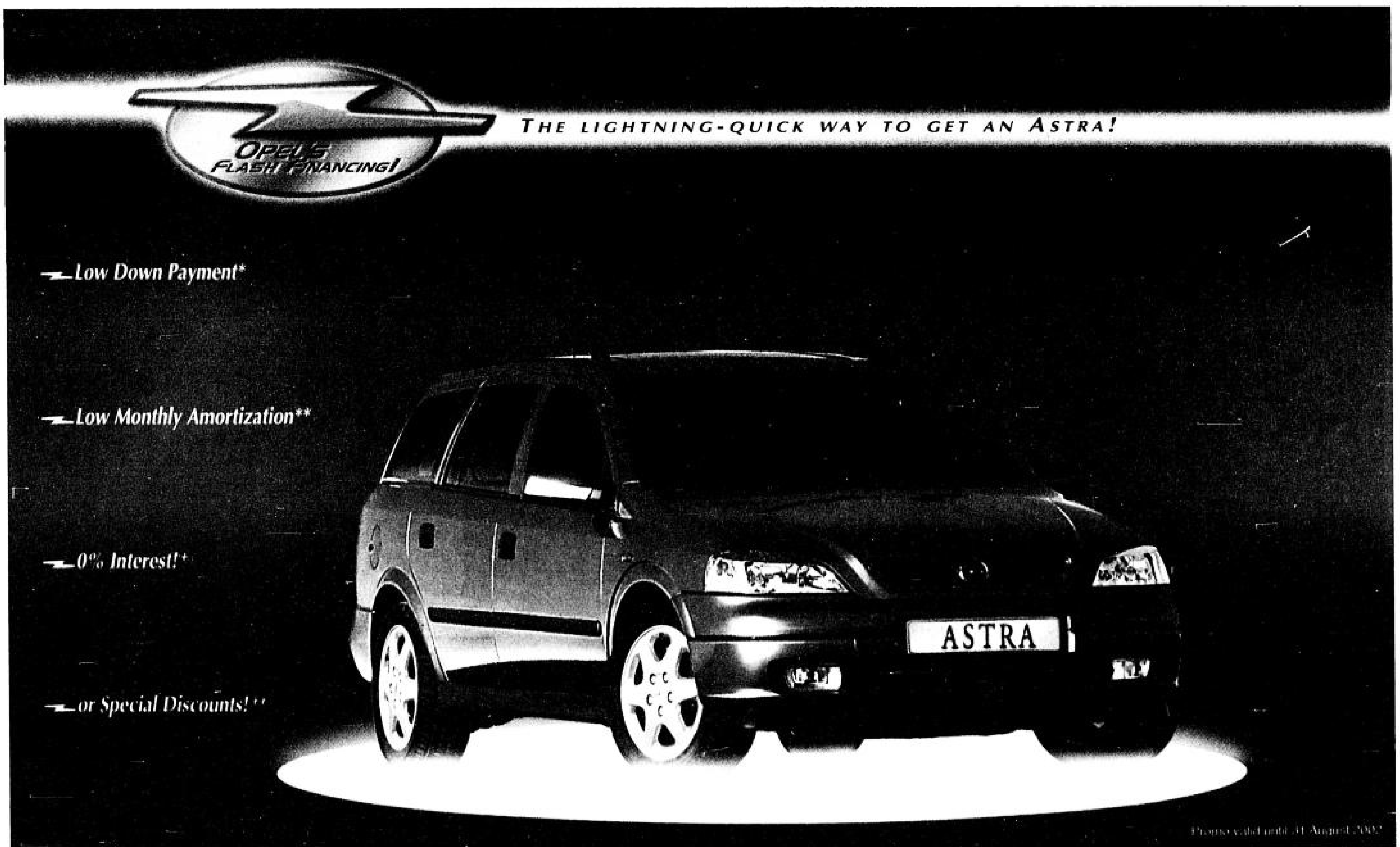

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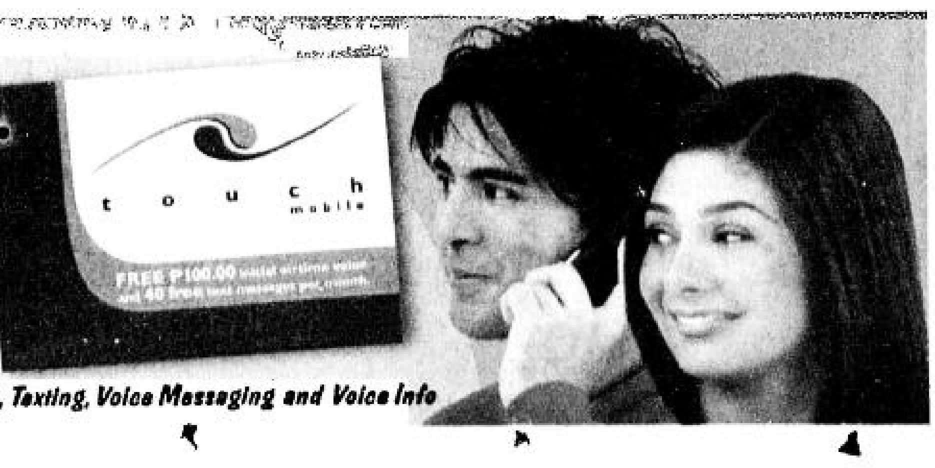
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MY HOME and FR magazines will hold another parenting workshop, "Practical Magic," on Aug. 17, 9 a.m., at the Clermont Function Room of Discovery Suites in Ortigas, Pasig City.

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FR and My Home subscribers will enjoy a special admission rate of P250. For the subscriber who brings along a friend, the rate drops to P150. The friend will be charged P250. Call 631-2859 or 633-4785.

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PHILOSOPHY'S furnished and accessorized room

CAFÉ Georg

Cebu's shopping philosophy

From page E1

them flattering. It is rumored that Starbucks has not opened in Cebu because people there are too stingy to spend P40 on a cup of coffee, even if it will do wonders for their social image. Bo's coffee, however, is raking in the profits at P25 a cup. Not bad for a very good copy. Not to mention, the coffee is great.

People in Cebu know they are the test market for everything from brassieres to beer, not because they are a particularly sophisticated market but because, as one retailer told me, "If you pass Cebu, you are a winner because Cebuanos don't spend."

Meanwhile, the fearless with the foresight press on because, as the lifestyle store Philosophy's Joy Benedicto puts it, "In Cebu, it's hard to find things, and we're years behind Manila."

The who's-who of Cebu society come to Philosophy (Juana Osmeña Street, Cebu City; tel. [63-32] 256-3877; e-mail myjoy@mozcom.com) for unusual gifts such as velvet or brocade table runners in traditional Indian patterns (P1,780-P1,950), ceramics, silk flowers and candles (P65-P350).

But the philosophy behind Philosophy is to make shopping for the home easy. Joy laid out the store like a house with a living room, dining room, kitchen and bedrooms. Every room is completely furnished and accessorized so that customers can come in a buy a room "as is."

The store carries only export-quality furniture. It also helps that Joy hails from one of the biggest furniture-exporting families. (Everyone in Cebu must be half a degree separated from a furniture exporter. Furniture exporting is to Cebu what acting is to Los Angeles. Everyone knows an actor, everyone knows a furniture exporter...)

If an entire room is not quite what you were looking for, everything you see in the store from Oriental cushions between P450 and P850 to herbal soap (P360), is for sale. Joy and her staff can also help put any room together, including kitchen and dressing storage planning. Custom-made closets range from P20,000 to P30,000 depending on area and choice of materials.

Georg's town

Every time I have to return to the Philippines, aside from fearing for my life, I fear for my... diet! Being thin is more important to me than being alive. That's why I have not touched a single piece of red meat or pork for over 15 years. I have requested for chicken and pork *adobo* with "...chicken only *dahil* Muslim *ako*..." (These days that line gets you *instant* service just in case you have the AK-47 preferred payment plan.)

So you can imagine how I dreaded having to go to Cebu, the land of "*Wa ang* Starbucks *gyud!*" If they have no Starbucks, what could they have? I found my savior in Café Georg (G/F MLD Building, Banilad Street, Cebu City; tel. [63-32] 234-0887) or CG as owner Bunny Ludo likes to call it.

Within the extensive menu are lots of vegetarian dishes and an even greater selection of desserts. The star dessert, Chocolate Decadence, a flourless chocolate torte made with Belgian chocolate, is based on a recipe from the California Culinary Academy in San Francisco.

A busier and hipper version of Café Georg can be found at the Ayala Center. A former fund manager "who always wanted to cook," Bunny's first restaurant was Oh Georg (1/L Ayala Center Cebu; tel. [63-32] 233-4735). Believing that "people go for simple, basic food" and not pretentious nouvelle cuisine, Bunny set out to create a moderately priced and varied menu from pastas to fried chicken.

Both restaurants have similar menus. Some of the Georg dishes are what you always wanted but were afraid to ask for, like the Chicken Java Salad (P135), a combination of chicken, lettuce, carrots, jicama, cucumber and peanut dressing, which seems like a salad made up of *achara* and greens. Or the pasta Bolognara (P130), which is basically a Bolognese and Carbonara mix.

It's amazing the menu works with entrées such as Fish en Papillote (P160), *lapu-lapu* baked in parchment paper sharing the page with the Cowboy, a comfort dish of Hungarian sausage, honey mustard, chili con carne and cheese. The shakes (P80) are not to be missed: Banana Oreo (banana shake and Oreo cookies), Mango Magic (mango and cinnamon), Almond Thrill (mocha ice cream, espresso, almond essence, chocolate syrup and whipped cream). And from one Cebuana to another, here's a tip: ask for the Banana Cake. It's not on the menu and only regulars know it. It is this banana cake trail led me to Café Georg in the first place.

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Nature conservation in a golf course

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

SOME years ago, we had a chance to talk to Cristina V. Turalba about the Mount Malarayat Golf & Country Club, which was then just starting construction in Lipa City, Batangas. It was a project she was enthusiastic about, for as architect and environmental planner, she must have consolidated all the design and construction principles she holds dear, turning them into reality. I say "she" because it was her I talked to, but I knew that she spoke on behalf of the Active Group, the realty and development corporation undertaking the project, and which she and her husband, Antonio, head.

At the time, construction of golf courses was a matter of great concern to environmentalists for, among other things, the enormous amount of water needed to maintain them. Water then was, as it still is, a crucial factor in any project. To use it for a facility that benefited only a few was what worried the conservationists.

Today, Malarayat is well into its fifth year of operations. There are still areas under construction, other put on hold due to worldwide economic restraints, but already there is much to show and Tina Turalba was happy to do it.

We reminded her of the promises she made eight years ago—that as her professional commitment was on nature conservation, she would make sure the vegetation and waterways in the property were left untouched, no tree would be irresponsibly cut down, and work on the terrain would follow its contours and not change it.

Turalba says that not only have they not covered up any creek or stream, they've built five lakes to serve as cisterns or catch basins for irrigation and other water needs. She also points to huge boulders set here and there along the green. They were not dug up from any river or blasted out from some mountain, she explained, but made of cement and looking more and more like the real things as moss and grass have started growing on them.

There now stands at the entrance of the Golf Club building, two mango trees whose tops shoot up through the roof that had to be specially constructed to accommodate them. "We tried to relocate them," Tina recounts, "but they refuse to budge." Something new always happened, like a worker getting hurt, which prevented any attempt to move them. So, there they stand in their old site, like symbols of the promises Tina has kept.

We were toured around in a golf cart that gave us a good view and feel of the place. It suddenly occurred to us that, in a setting spread before us where trees and lakes blended against the backdrop of the Malarayat range, the club management could offer romantic cart tours around the greens, when all the golfers had turned in for the day, that is.

Malvar Farm Estate

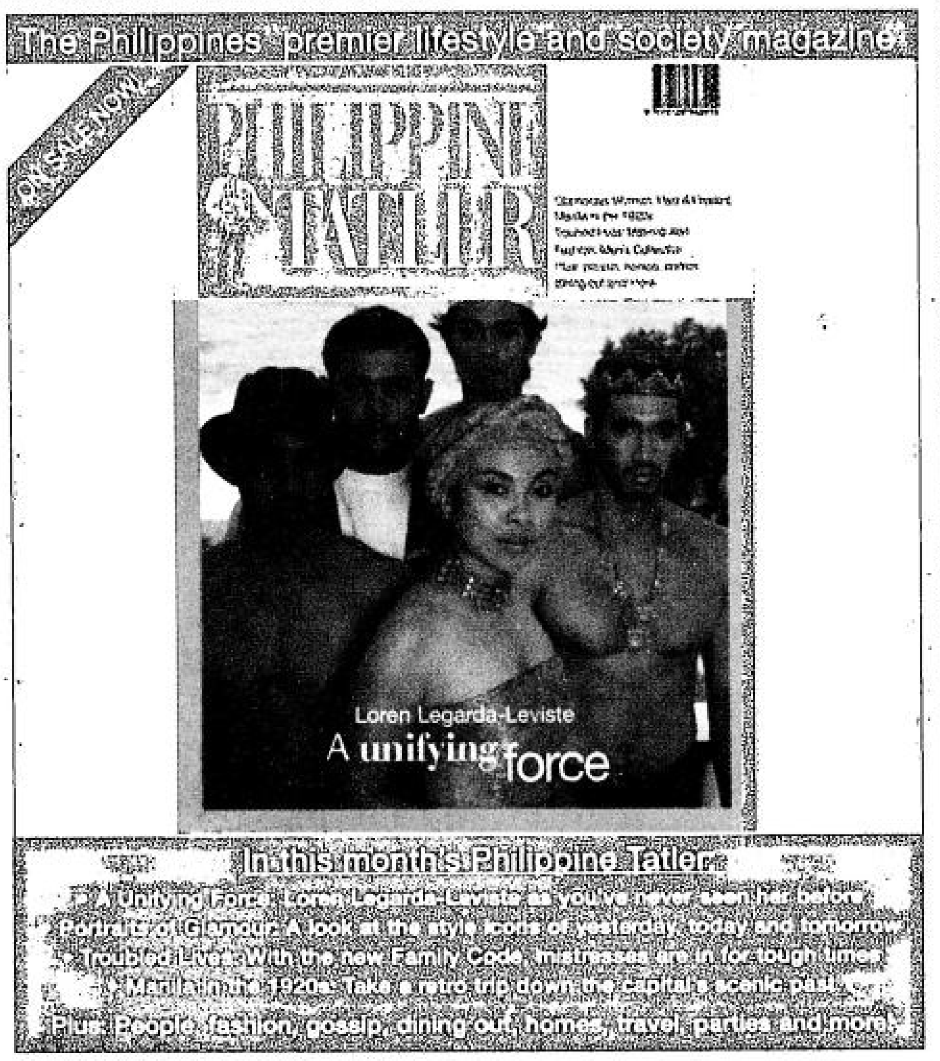
The Active Group's latest project established its environmental commitment even more emphatically. This is the Malvar Farm Estates, one of the growing number of lot-cum-farm developments gaining acceptance among Filipinos. This farm estate is situated a few kilometers away from Club Malarayat and accessible through a national road.

The Malvar project, explains Tina, was intended initially as an industrial estate, but when they found the soil so rich, so conducive to agriculture, it was decided the place would become farm estates instead.

The plan for the place includes building bridges over two streams that cross it. "You see," Tina teases, "we're not covering them up." Rather, the bridges and the streams will enhance the beautiful terrain, with the San Juan River some distance away, and man-made lakes added to them. The way the estate will look is clear in her mind—the exact spots to build the bridges and lakes, how the lots will be wilted (1,000 to 1,300 ha. each), 25 percent of which will be used for the house and the rest for the farm. Like other farm estates, it will make professional services available to lot owners who may need training as farmers.

Saplings and seedlings are lined up in a tree nursery ready for transplanting as plans dictate. "Never do we cut down trees," Tina stresses again. "If we have to move them, we ball and transplant them. We have equipment to do that."

As much remains to be done in Malvar, we await follow-up reports on the latest application for what is intended as a nature-friendly haven.



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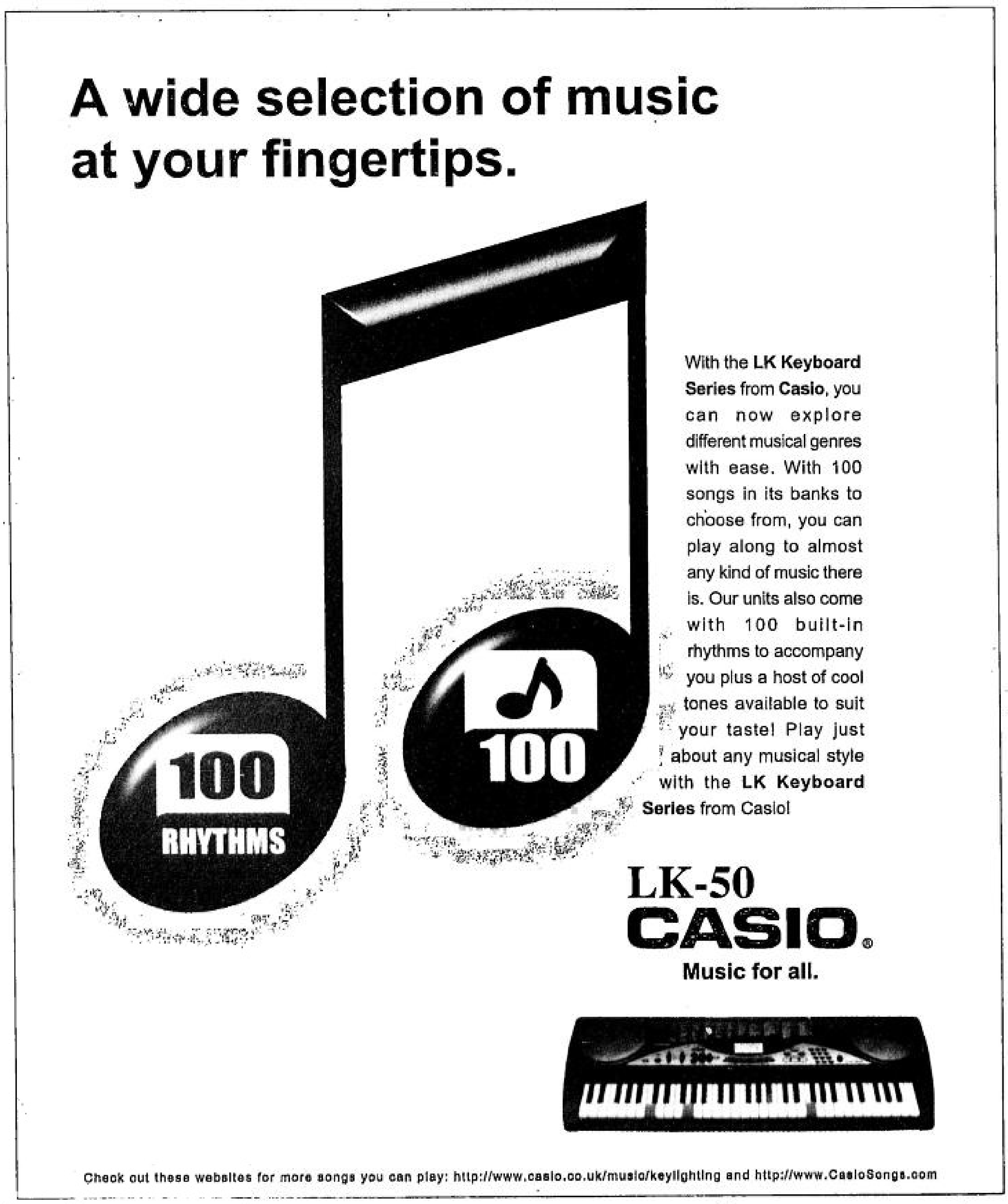

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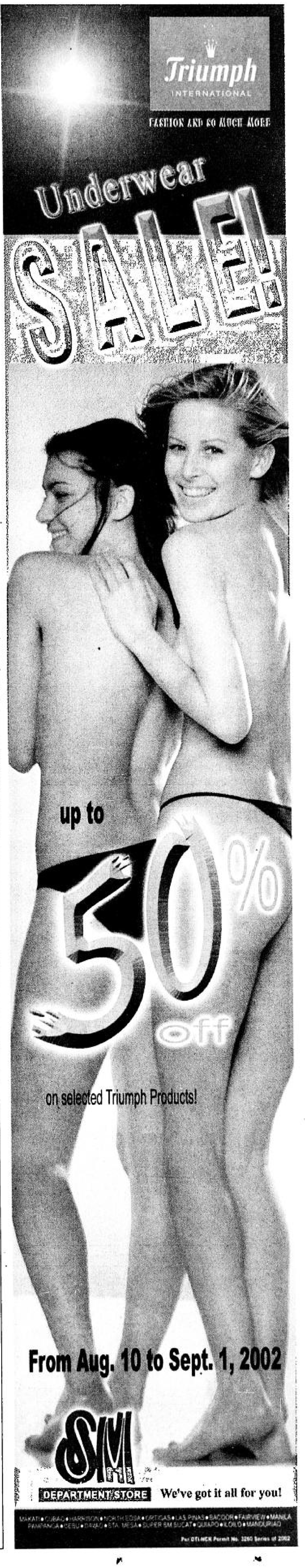

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STYROFOAM boxes are recycled as hydroponics containers.

AN EXPERT on hydroponics vegetable growing checks new seedlings.

Soil-less gardening offers alternative

For those with limited time and space, hydroponics is the way to go

From page E8

stimulate their growth. It is recommended for "low-profile" or small vegetables like lettuce, mustard or *pechay*.

- Dry system fertilizes the plants as it irrigates. It is recommended for climbing crops like tomatoes, fancy peppers, honeydew and cucumber.
- Actoponics infuses moisture or water droplets containing nutrients to the roots of plants. One can improvise with styrobox equipped with a bottom mister that can be automatically timed to shower roots with nutrients.
- Aquaponics integrates hydroponics with aquaculture.

(A simpler method we learned many years ago from the one hydroponics hobbyist, Cecilia Dinglasan, is the flood and drain technique using different grades of volcanic pebbles for planting medium. She uses a special plastic pot with ample drainage holes and water-retaining saucer. Once or twice a week, the potting medium is drained, washed and flushed with fresh nutrient-rich water.)

Recommended vegetables

To add perk to vegetable hydroponics, Caballes (e-mail sales@alliedbotanical.com) and Bienes (alliedco@info.com.ph) recommended nontraditional oriental greens such as *pakchoi, ratsoi, mizuna, perilla, kailan, tangho*, green soybean and heading mustard.

According to Bienes, most of these are oriental vegetables that are hard to find in the local market. She explained further that *tangho* is also known as garland chrysanthemum while *tatsai* and *mizuna* look like *pechay*. She added that green soybean is the main ingredient for the Japanese dish called *edamame* that goes tandem with beer.

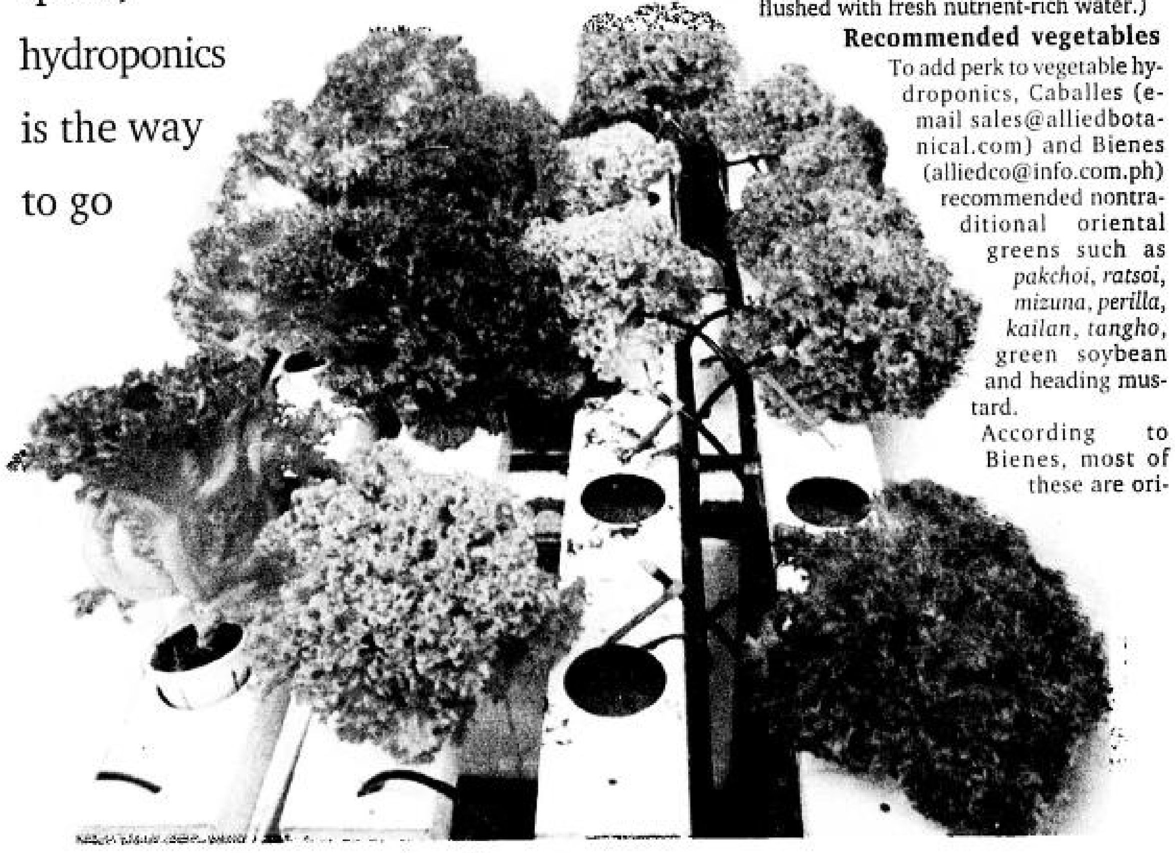
The technical advisers recommended sprouts, herbs and spices. They enumerated the following: alfalfa, broccoli, *arugula kale*, sweet basil, parsley, thyme, mint, sage, sorrel, tarragon, spinach, dill, summer savory, chives, coriander, endive and celery. Seed packets are available at Allied Botanical (tel. 911-2822/0836).

But for folks who are not venturesome enough to try nontraditional vegetable, here are the more common ones suggested by the technical team: lettuce, tomatoes, cucumber, melon and pepper.

For more information on growing vegetables in hydroponics and where to get special hydroponics fertilizers, call Bienes or Caballes. Call them also for a copy of the hydroponics guide.

E-mail the author at mgiron@i-manila.com.ph or lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

THE DRY system hydroponics is recommended for climbing crops like tomatoes.



DIFFERENT kinds of lettuce grown the soil-less way

POS presents orchids for good health

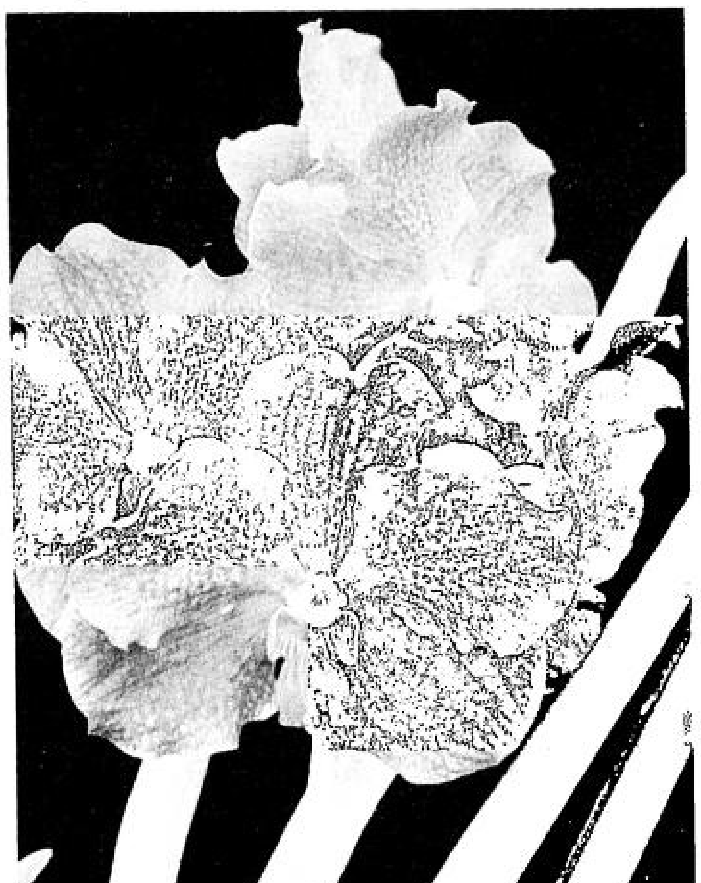
IF you're looking for an alternative to relieve stress and other ailments, visit the 56th Midyear Orchid and Garden Show of the Philippine Orchid Society. With the cooperation of the Quezon Memorial Park administration headed by Charito Planas, this will be held on Aug. 23-Sept. 1 at the Commonwealth Wing, Quezon Memorial Circle, QC.

The theme "Orchids for Good Health" is based on the successful NASA experiments that live plants and flowers can remove the volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) such as benzene and formaldehyde among others, from inside the test chamber. Due to the now accepted scientific fact that plants improve the quality of air we breathe, the Associated Landscape Contractors of America (Alca), created the Plants for Clean Act Council (PCAC), a non-profit organization supporting the cultivation of plants and flowers as a method of improving indoor air quality. Orchids are highly recommended for their therapeutic value.

Agriculture Undersecretary Ernesto Ordoñez, Quezon City Mayor Sonny Belmonte and actress Susan Roces will formally open the invitational exhibit on Aug. 22 at 4 p.m. Public viewing will be on the following day to Sept. 1.

To be featured are native species and imported hybrids such as the world-famous *waling-waling*, cattleyas, dendrobiums, ground orchids, phalaenopsis, oncidiums and grammatophyllums. Pet birds, plant arts and other ornamentals will be displayed in natural landscape style.

Lecture-demonstrations on the different aspects of orchid-growing will also be held. The lecturers are Dr. Vic Saplala on Controlling Orchid Pests and Diseases, Aug. 23; Fred Salud on Landscaping, Aug. 24; Danilo U. Ang on Pet Bird Care, Aug. 25; Vic Chin Jr. on Growing Cattleyas and Dendrobiums, Aug. 26; Glenn Remorca on Flower Arrangement, Aug. 27; C.V. Lazaro on Growing Vandas and Palaenopsis, Aug. 28; Andres Golamco Jr. on Potting Techniques and Conventional Orchid Propagation, Aug. 29; Jose Mari Lacandula on Orchid Cutflower Production, Aug. 30; Rolita V. Spowart on Designing Your Orchid Greenhouse, Aug. 31; and Lilia Fernandez on Guidelines in Orchid Conservation and Cites, Sept. 1.



VANDA (Hilo Rose X Dr. Anek) "Evelyn," awarded best semi-quarter Terete Vanda exhibited by Andres Golamco Jr. in the last POS show

Flora à la Rachy Cuna

LEARN the latest styles and techniques in flower arranging from the country's floral architect himself—Rachy Cuna.

Yalan Trade, in its commitment to open avenues for livelihood opportunities, presents Rachy Cuna in a flower arrangement workshop on Aug. 24, 2 p.m., at the AEK Bldg., 40 E. Rodriguez Ave., QC. According to Adela Ang, Yalan Trade owner, the workshop is open free to the public.

Cuna, who is best known for his natural, free-flowing and avant-garde arrangements, will use Yalan's dried flowers and permanent botanicals.

Floral designer Letty de Castro of the Floral Arts and Crafts Design Center (FACDC) will also demonstrate innovative ways of gift-packaging using dried flowers and permanent botanicals as accents.

Workshop highlight is a hands-on session which will enable participants to create their own flower arrangements under the supervision of Cuna, FACDC officers led by Pearl Banaag and Yalan's floral designers.

Flower design professionals and enthusiasts are also invited to National Capital Region elimination round of the Rachy Cuna Cup, a flower design competition, on Aug. 31 at the AEK Bldg. Winners will compete with the other regional winners for the grand finals at the World Trade Center on Sept. 14 and 15.

For more information/reservation, call Jenet at 711-9636 or 712-0471.

Lipa City holds garden show

IT'S time again for flower enthusiasts to visit Lipa City as it holds its flower, garden show, *atbp.* in time with its 55th founding anniversary on Aug. 31.

The event will stage various types of flowers and plants ranging from orchids, liliums, roses, anthuriums, bonsai plants, as well as locally made products—candle holders, flower pots, souvenir items, delicacies such as *puto bumbong* and *tapa*, and homemade *hamonado* and *longanisa*.

Some 20 stall holders from Marikina Shoe Caravan will also be participating with its special discounts for shoes and other products.

Nineteen members of the Lipa City Cutflower Association will participate in the garden show together with small-scale businesses from Baguio City and nearby provinces.

The event will be held Aug. 26-Sept. 1 at the New City Hall Quadrangle, Marauoy, Lipa City.

Call (043) 756-1178, 756-1828 or 981-1620.

Plant and flower festival in Fairview

"GARDEN Blessings: A Plant and Flower Festival" to be held on Aug. 21-Sept. 3 at the upper ground level, SM City, Fairview, QC.

Organized by Keegan Meyers Events and Exhibits, it is a one-stop shop for garden enthusiasts. The affair will showcase exotic plants and flowers such as bonsai, tray landscapes, cacti and other succulents, roses, mini waterfalls, terrariums, orchids, pots and vases, fertilizers, garden accessories, indoor plants.

Plant art expert Serapion S. Metilla of Mett's Plant Arts will showcase a special setting that can be adapted to one's home and garden.

Call 633-9662 or (0917) 890-4669.

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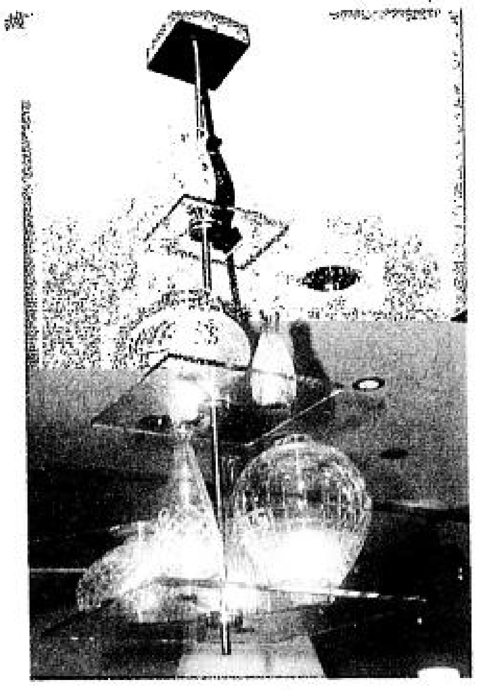
Oriental furniture exhibit at Rockwell

OLD Asia, one of the country's Asian furniture dealers with showrooms at the Power Plant Mall and Shangri-La Plaza, will exhibit its latest Oriental finds at the Rockwell Leisure Club, Rockwell Center Aug. 19-25.

The exhibit will include pieces from its new shop, Details by Old Asia, a furnishings store meant to complement Old Asia. Traditional Asian furniture for the home from Old Asia and contemporary accessories as well as flexible accent pieces from Details will be featured in the exhibit. Call 898-1314.

Italian lamps to light up your life



STELTZ International, exclusive licensee of Italy-based lamp maker Flos, has just opened its store on the 3/L The Podium.

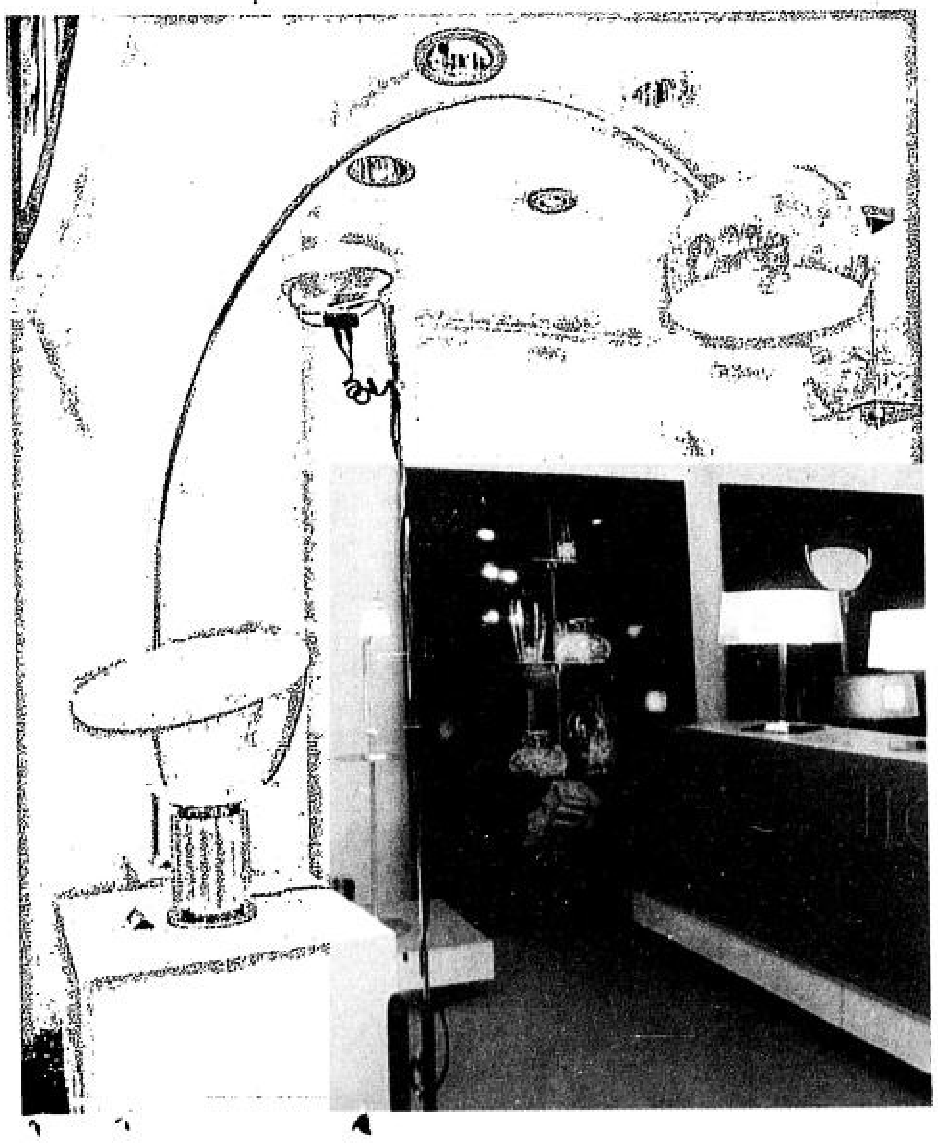
The store's opening was attended by Mario Rodella, Flos marketing head for Asia-Pacific, and his son Bruno, a lighting consultant.

Flos offers designs ranging from the Arco and the Noce and Taraxacum by renowned Italian designer Achille Castiglioni, to the Ara and Miss Sissi by French designer Philippe Starck. Other famous Flos designers are Tobia Scarpa, Afra Scarpa, Rodolfo Dordoni, Antonio Cittero, Jasper Morrison, Marc Newson, Marc Sadler and Konstantin Grcic, who won recently the coveted Compasso d'Oro 2001.

Flos' lamps can be found in the showrooms of Versace, Rolex, Louis Vuitton, Cartier and in the Metropolitan Museum of New York, the Victoria and Alberta Museum in London, the Museo del Design in Italy, among others.

Flos, through Steltz International, accepts orders for custom-made lamps.

Call Steltz International at 632-0967 or 633-8313.



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HANDYPHONE

Soil-less gardening offers alternative

By Tita V. Giron

HYDROPONICS is a way of gardening with water and plant nutrients. It is a good choice for people who don't have the time and space, or technical knowledge to grow plants. All it needs is a small space and a raised bench or table for the system. It can be set up in a corner of the porch or the verandah, or right in the kitchen where culinary herbs and vegetables can be grown for home consumption.

Starting a system is easy these days compared to years ago when materials were scarce and imported. High cost of structure and lack of know-how discouraged people from going into the non-traditional gardening. But today, several hydroponics systems are available and there are experts around who are willing to set up systems and provide all the inputs from seeds to nutrients.

The growing popularity of this soil-less gardening has inspired plant traders to come up with innovative designs adapted to local conditions. We learned from a supplier of hydroponics kits that weekend vegetable growers, many of them business executives, have set up systems in Tagaytay and Batangas and are now raising commercial crops. Increasingly, hobbyists in Metro Manila are now trying their hands in the interesting growing culture.

For this story, we visited Allied Botanical Corp., a vegetable seed importer and distributor that has designed a simple hydroponics system for both commercial vegetable growers and hobbyists. The designer, Anastacio Ong (tel. 437-6606 to 08), has come up with a mini unit designed specially for small-spaced city residences.

Ong demonstrated to us a prototype when we asked for something we could set up in a small corner of our backyard. It was a 2x4-ft unit with 24 planting holes. According to him, a starter kit is available after two weeks from the time it is ordered. The kit (priced at P3,500) has a water pump, media, nutrients, vegetable seedlings and seed packs of our choice. We were told that the portable unit was also ideal for small backyard or apartment patio. We could use it for many years, Ong assured us.

Technical support information

Michael Caballes and Rowena Bienes, Allied Botanical's technical support team, gave us an impromptu hands-on lecture on how to grow hydroponics vegetables. For a starter, they described hydroponics as "growing plants in soil-less liquid culture."

There are different systems, they explained. The more popular ones are:

- Nutrient film technique where dissolved nutrients are piped in the growing channel. A low voltage pump re-circulates the plant food. A variant has a channel that is flooded and drained. The same system may use tubes or dark plastic sheets to keep the roots in darkness to

SOIL/ P.E6

VEGETABLES grown at hydroponics demo farm of Allied Botanical Corporation

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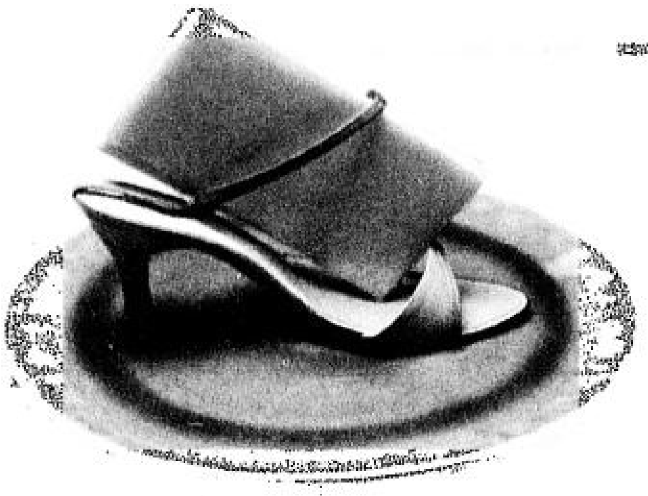
LIFESTYLE



No shunning the shoe

STORY ON PAGE F6

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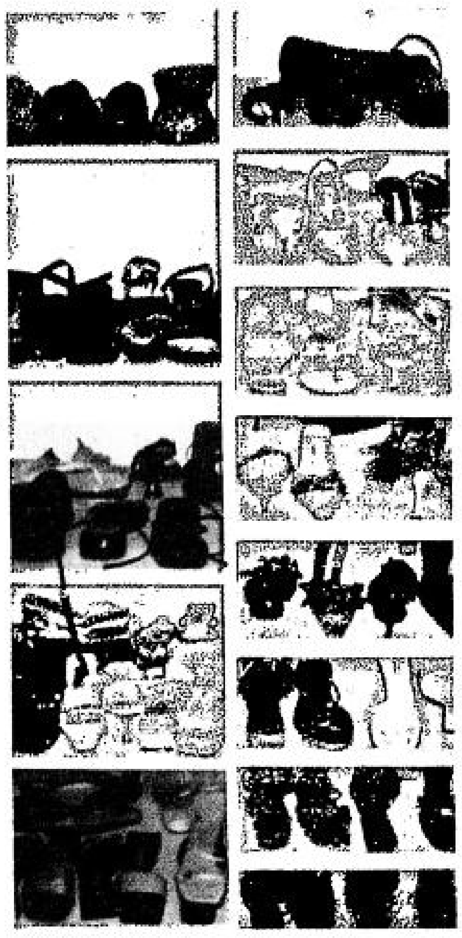

A 'shoe'-in as runner-up to the Imeldific

STORY ON PAGE F4

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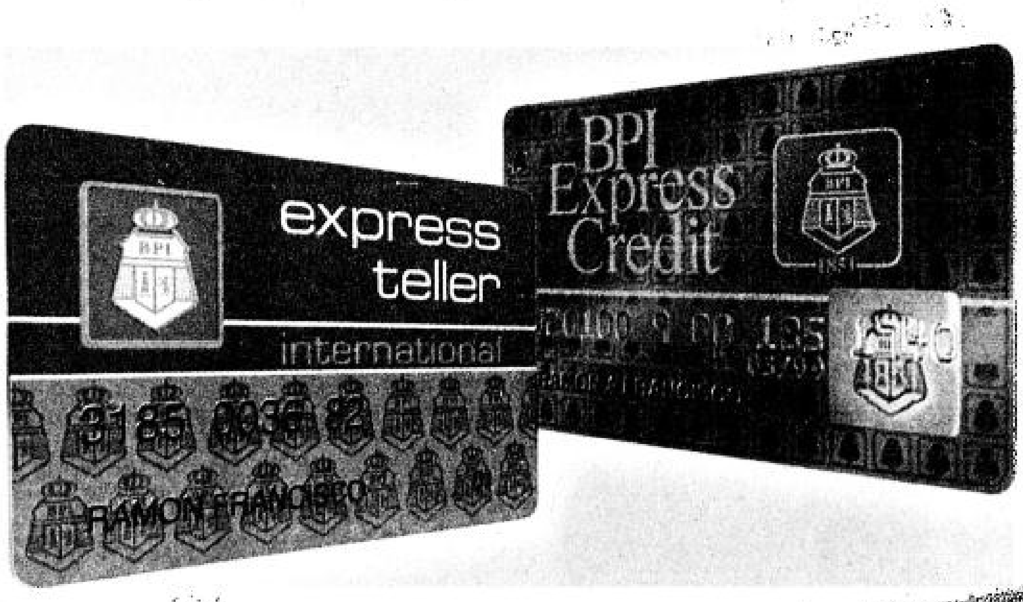

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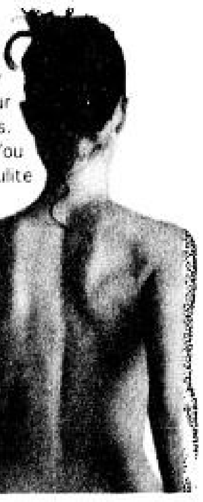

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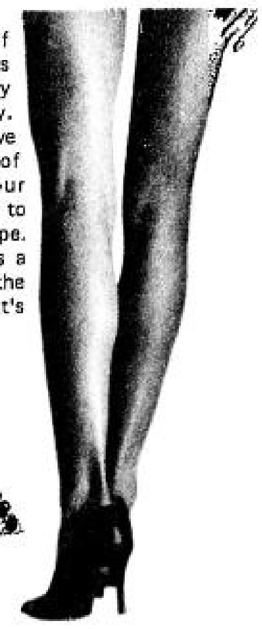
The naked truth!



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Footwear and fancy free

WHEN you wear the fall-winter 2002-2003 classic styles from Salvatore Ferragamo, the world is at your feet. For evening, it's back to black with refined stitched satin, booties and mules with stiletto heels... strappy sandals with diamond cut heels...the "cage heel" is back for an updated classic evening shoe as well as the Ferragamo signature black diamond "Vara" buckle. Black polished-effect calf with lacing details gives a new edge to a line of feminine urban shoes with curved heels and raised point.

VARA pump in black patent

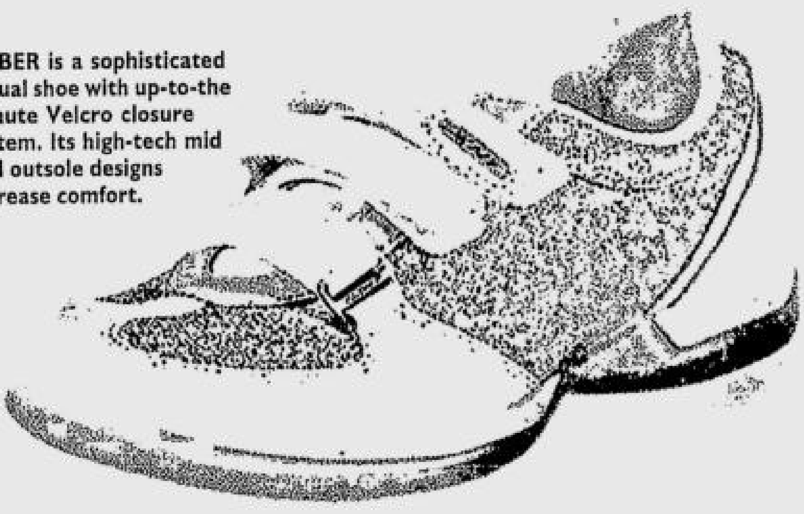
MAMBO decollete shoe in black calf

MAIL decollete shoe in black calf

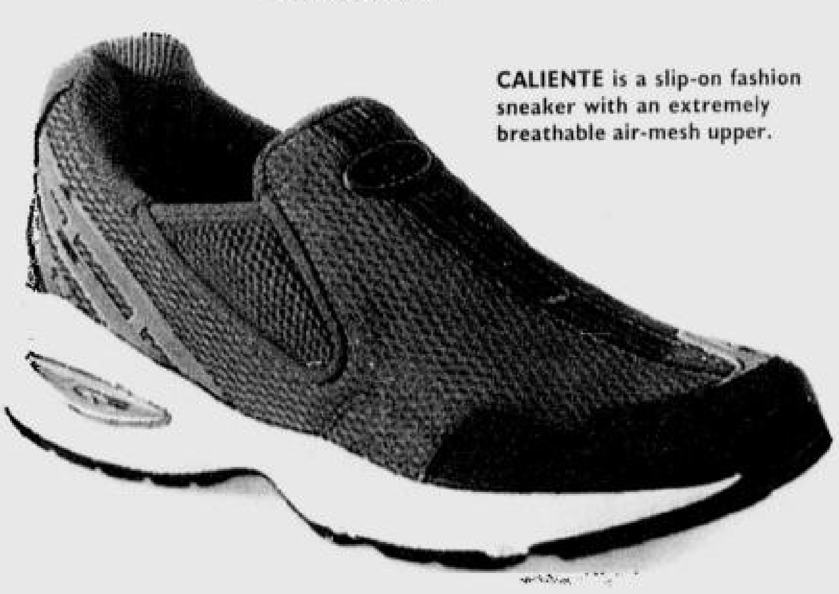
MALINDI decollete shoe in black calf

Full gear excitement from DKNY

THE SPEED Slide gives an easy-on, easy-off backless slip-on based on the high-tech speed construction.



EMBER is a sophisticated casual shoe with up-to-the minute Velcro closure system. Its high-tech mid and outsole designs increase comfort.



CALIENTE is a slip-on fashion sneaker with an extremely breathable air-mesh upper.

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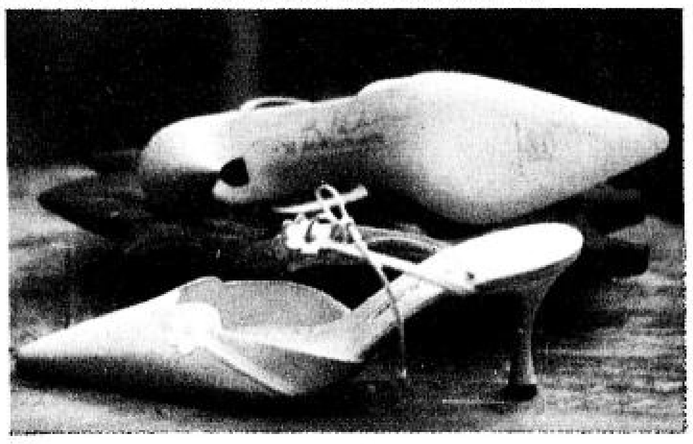
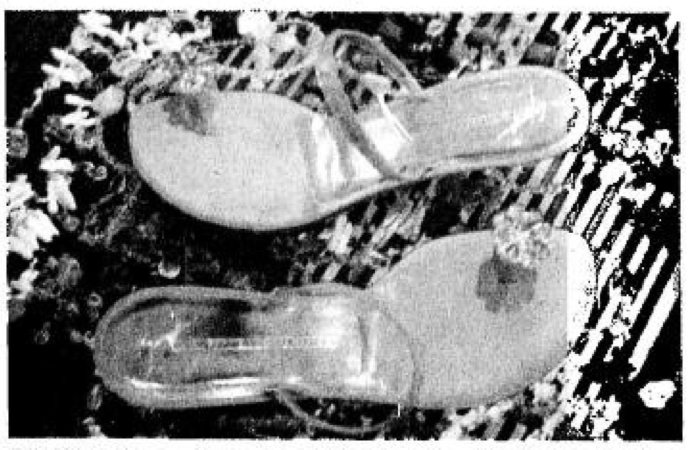
SATIN mules in lilac with floral accents by Diego Dolcini


MANOLO Blahnik mules autographed by the shoe designer


GIUSEPPE Zanotti toe-ring slides with rhinestones

A 'shoe'-in as runner-up to the Imeldific

Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes
Photos by Joan Bondoc

ON OUR way to South Forbes, Ingrid Chua-Go wants to know if we are going to take her photo. "Just my stuff, right?"

"Stuff" refers to her shoes, her most cherished possessions. Ingrid refuses to reveal how many she has collected through the years, but we can safely assume she has a lot.

Ingrid, 24, married to banker Patrick Go, son of former Equitable Bank president George Go, has a closetful ***(see photo on page F1)*** of signature footwear, some worn, others brand-new. Still, they're nowhere near the 3,000 pairs someone used to have, although the owner of the 3,000 sets gave Ingrid a pair autographed by her.

SINGULAR STYLE

Ingrid met Imelda Marcos through a mutual friend, art patron-designer Teyet Pascual. "I told her (Marcos) I loved shoes and how much I would love to have a [pair by] Roger Vivier," recalls Ingrid. The former First Lady had several Viviers. After several weeks, Pascual handed Ingrid a pair from Marcos with little notes written inside the shoes. Although it wasn't a Roger Vivier, but a Ferragamo, Ingrid appreciated the thought. The note read: "You are well-heeled if in your shoe closet they find shoes, not skeletons." Says Ingrid, "It was so fitting. She's a nice woman and really sweet."

A glimpse

Ingrid wheels in a big suitcase to show us a few items in her collection, some of them purchased only recently. Several pairs are still in their cloth bags. Suede loafers in various colors and styles, low-heeled shoes in satin, heavily beaded high-heels, magnificently opulent mules, satin silk slippers, slingbacks with floral accents, slip-ons and flats with gilt bands and gold appliqués make up her collection. Most, if not all, of them are branded items—Manolo Blahnik, Jimmy Choo, Andrea Pfister, Gucci, Enzo Angiolini, Chanel, G & G, Marie Claire, Pedro Garcia España, Sigerson Morrison, Massimo Scolaro, Yves Saint Laurent, Diego Dolcini, Rebecca Sanver, Giuseppe Zanotti, Lambertson-Truex, Kate Spade NY.

"This is not a lot," insists Ingrid. "I still have shoes in my parents' house." Ingrid says she buys only quality and stylish shoes that every elegant woman dreams of. She buys her favored brands whenever she travels. "Any out-of-the-ordinary shoes I get for my own personal satisfaction," she says. That's why she hasn't even worn about 40-50 percent of her collection. "Some I wear only in my bedroom," she says.

Ingrid owns more than a dozen Manolos, six pairs of which she hasn't even worn. "It's not about wearing them (shoes) outside and letting people see and appreciate them," she says. "It's about how I feel inside. I feel happy that I got these shoes. I don't have to wear them for people to admire them." Ingrid delights in unique accents like feathers, embroidery, beads and flowers, including vegetables.

Blahnik fan

Ingrid was 17 when she got her first Manolos—a black toe-strapped pair with 3-inch heels. "I buy shoes because I like the way they look on my feet, especially the high-heeled ones. They make me walk straighter because when you wear high heels, they give you that regal bearing."

From her last visit to Hong Kong she brought home about three pairs of Manolos. Ingrid recalls that when she was working as a freelance associate producer for Star TV in Hong Kong, she would drop by The Peninsula and end up going home with three or four pairs of Manolos. "One time I bought one black enclosed pair, a black slingback and another with tortoise shell."

WELL-HEELED Ingrid Chua-Go

ANDREA Pfister "astroturf" slippers

She quickly adds that she gets some of her Manolos at a discount. "Contrary to what a lot of people think, I don't haphazardly spend my money left and right. If I see something really nice that I like, I wait for the end of the season." For instance, she got a pair of sexy Manolo mules in lime color for half their original price of HK$4,000 (about P26,480). She wore them once when she went out with Angela Arroyo after the latter's wedding.

Ingrid has a signed pair of Manolos. She has a Sri Lankan model-friend from New York who is also a Manolo fan and has met the designer a number of times in his shop. "So, I said to her: 'If by chance you see him again, do you mind having him sign my shoes?' A few weeks later, the shoes were [sent by] Fedex to me, signed by Manolo himself."

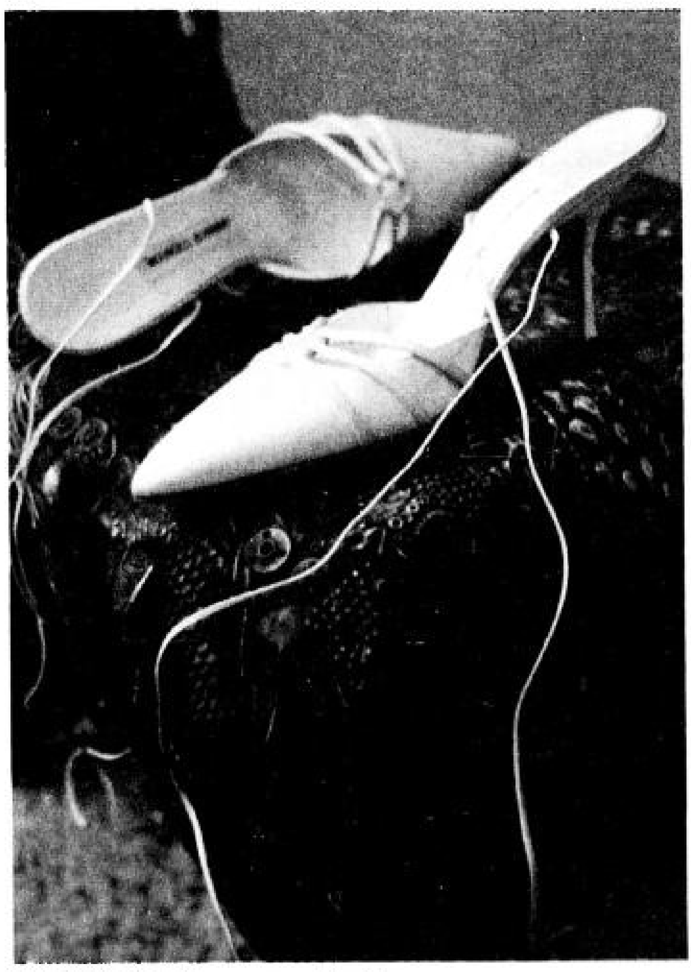
Other than Blahnik, Ingrid is partial to Jimmy Choo and Andrea Pfister. "I have yet to get myself a pair from Emma Hope of London, which is famous for handmade shoes."

Heirloom?

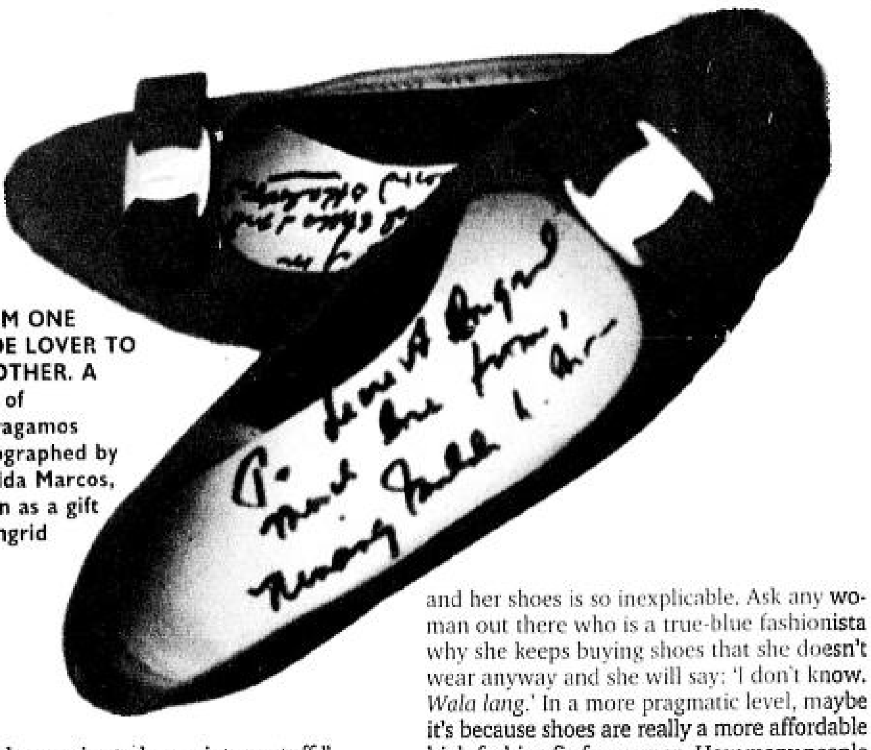
What does her husband have to say about her treasured shoes? "He says they're just shoes not jewelry. It's not something like, 10 years down the road, you can give to your children," says Ingrid. "But who knows? If I take good care of them, if I have a daughter and she has my shoe size, she can have them.

JIMMY Choo beaded slides in aqua

RENÉ Caovilla gold beaded high-heeled sandals


MANOLO Blahnik wraparound mules

JIMMY Choo mules accented with ostrich feathers



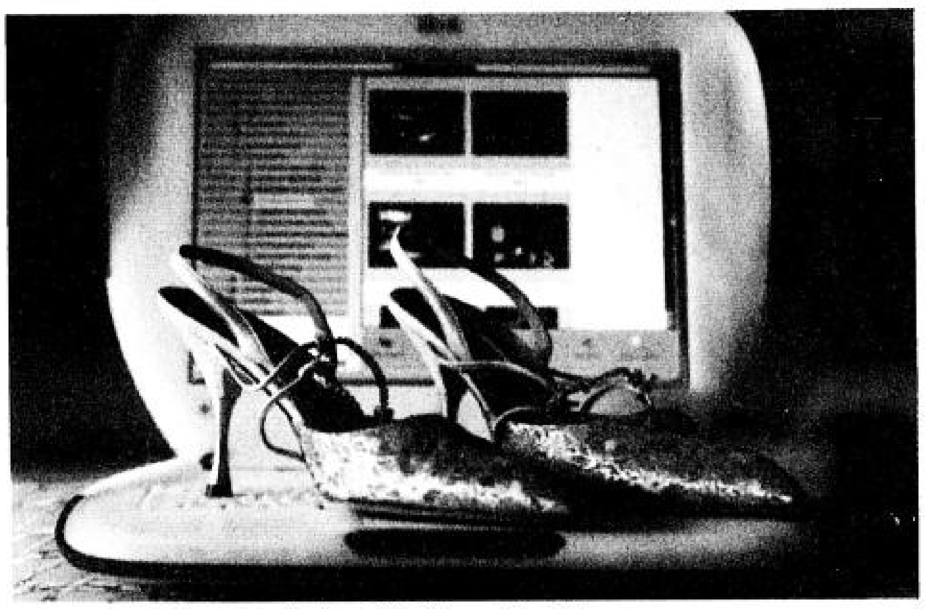
FROM ONE SHOE LOVER TO ANOTHER. A pair of Ferragamos autographed by Imelda Marcos, given as a gift to Ingrid

It's always nice to have vintage stuff."

Ingrid, who wears size 8, takes her collection out of the closet every week to give them an airing and keep them from molding. She also makes an inventory of her shoes once in a while. "It's hard to preserve shoes. But most of the shoes I don't wear I keep in the cloth (dust) bags that come with the footwear then I put them in their boxes."

Asked how much she values her collection, she says: "The relationship between a woman and her shoes is so inexplicable. Ask any woman out there who is a true-blue fashionista why she keeps buying shoes that she doesn't wear anyway and she will say: 'I don't know. *Wala lang*.' In a more pragmatic level, maybe it's because shoes are really a more affordable high-fashion fix for women. How many people out there can buy couture outfits every month or every season? Shoes often go on sale. With couture clothes you wear it once and people already know what you have. But shoes, depending on your outfit, can give you a different look. You can put a little twist so your shoes won't look the same. It depends on your outfit."

E-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph



MANOLO Blahnik slingbacks in stylish Chinese silk fabric

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Per DTI-NCR No. 2686 Series of 2002

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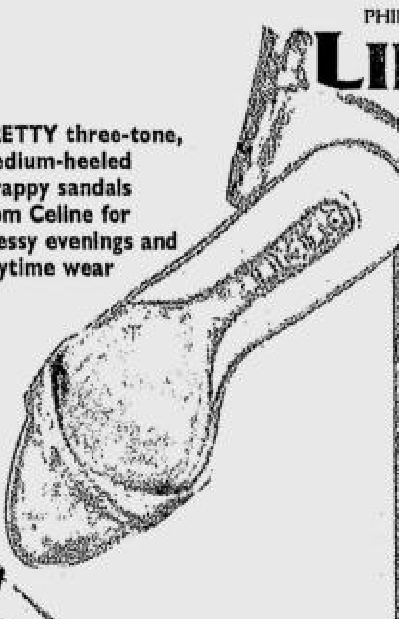
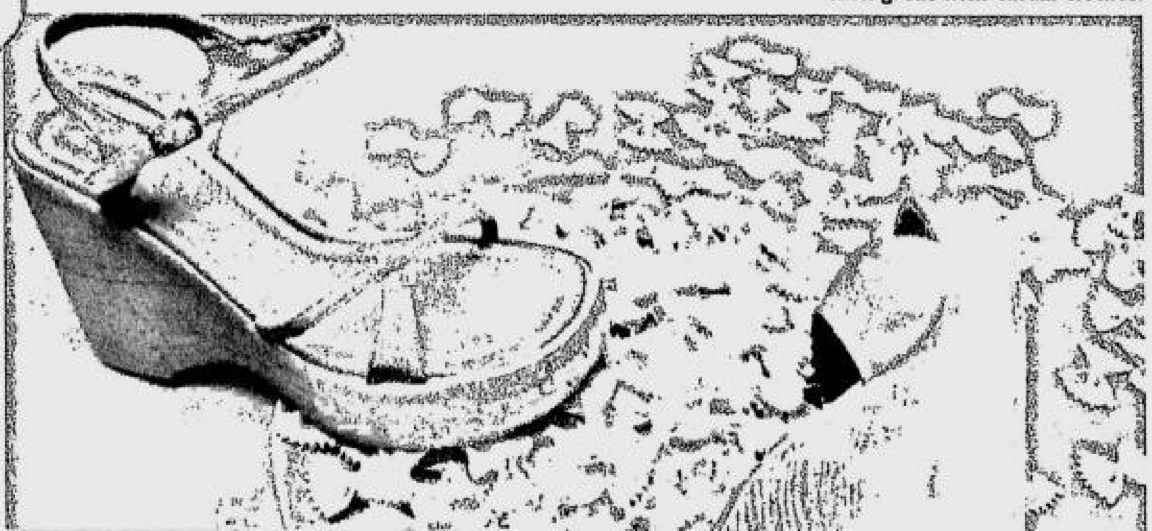
METALLIC party heels from Janylin are great for girls' night-out.



PRETTY three-tone, medium-heeled strappy sandals from Celine for dressy evenings and daytime wear



FUNKY light blue and camel cork wedgies from CMG will look great with casual clothes.

ROUND-TOE pumps in red from Janylin, if you dare to add color to an all-gray or black suit.

No shunning the shoe

Text by Gem Padilla
Photos by Chito Vecina
Styling by Rachy Cuna

NEXT to diamonds, shoes are a girl's best friends.

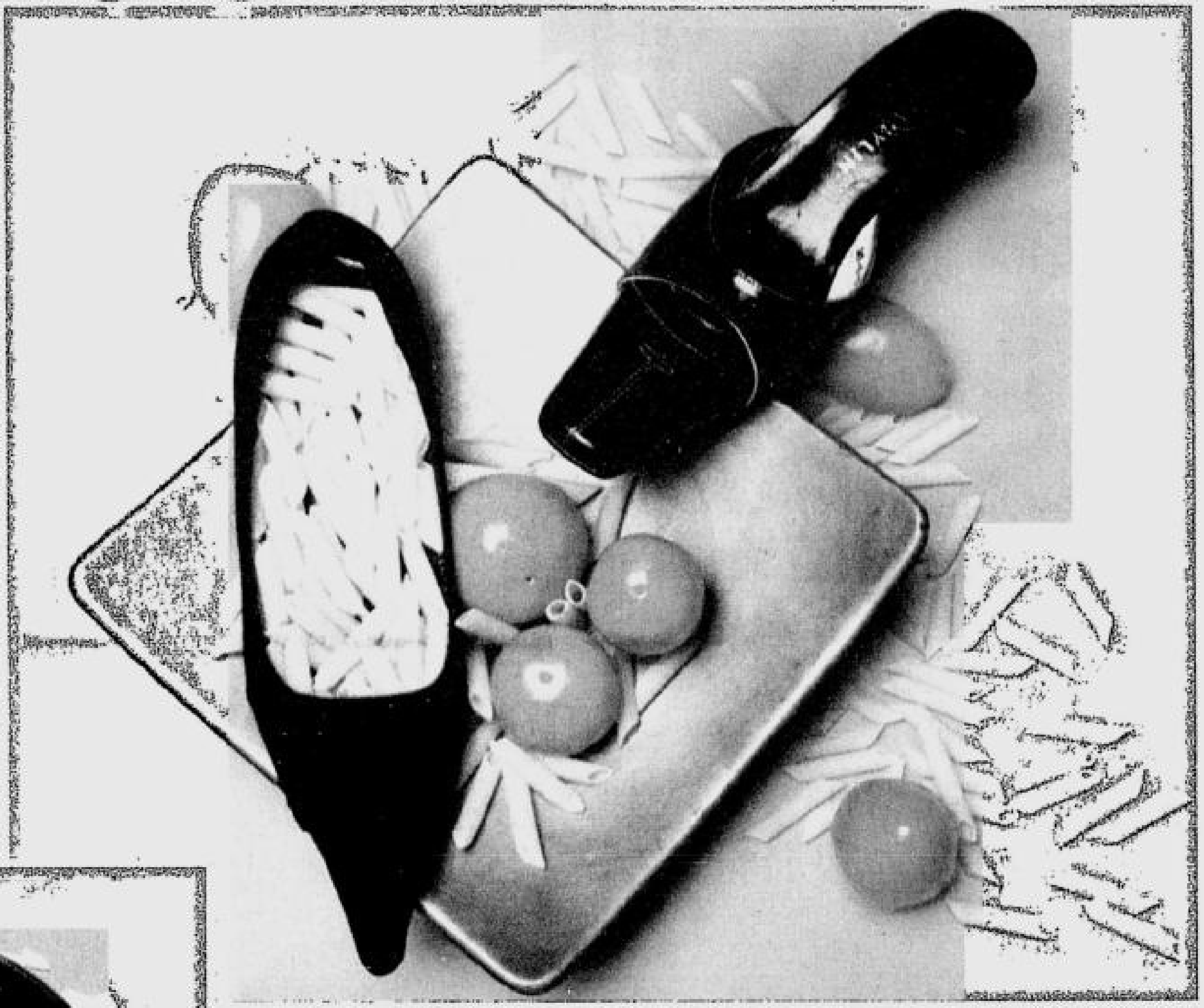
Primarily invented to protect the feet from the elements, shoes have come a long way. Centuries of evolution saw them transform from Egyptian sandals made of papyrus to the countless types of footwear now available to us.

Along the way, the role of the shoe has evolved alongside developments in craftsmanship and materials, in consonance with our changing needs, taste and sense of style. The developments include the leather-soled shoes, wooden platforms and heavy clogs. The innovations range from boots that cover the feet and legs to sexy sandals that expose the toes, strappy heels, loafers, pumps, slides and bejeweled slippers.

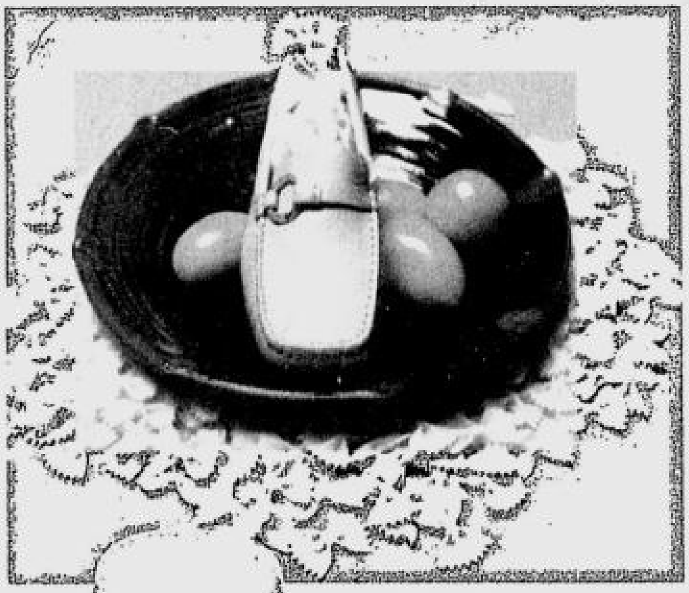
Shoes now complete a "look" or make a statement. They are vital to the totality of one's appearance. They have become so much more than just something to shod the feet.

Like fashion, shoes repeat themselves. It was around 1955 when stilettos were invented and combined with the pointed toes in Italy. They became the fashion rage. We saw the resurrection of the stilettos a couple of years ago and they're still going strong now. It's likely that we'll see them again in the future. Our indestructible love affair with shoes will see to that.

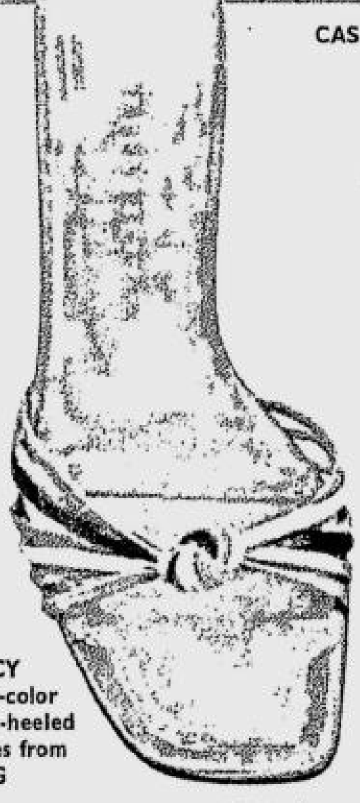
Shoes now come in a plethora of shapes, colors and sizes. This is largely due to the abundance of materials. Selecting a pair now requires the careful consideration of price, fit, practicality and the size of your shoe closet. But in the end, our hard choices will boil down to style and comfort. Or simpler still: style or substance, comfort or corn.



CLASSIC low-heel pointed toe and black slides from Janylin



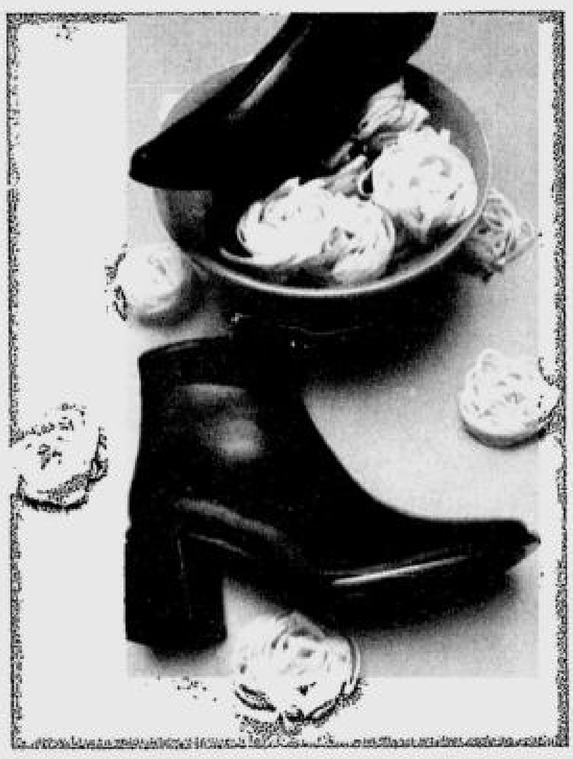
CASUAL Friday camel loafers from CMG



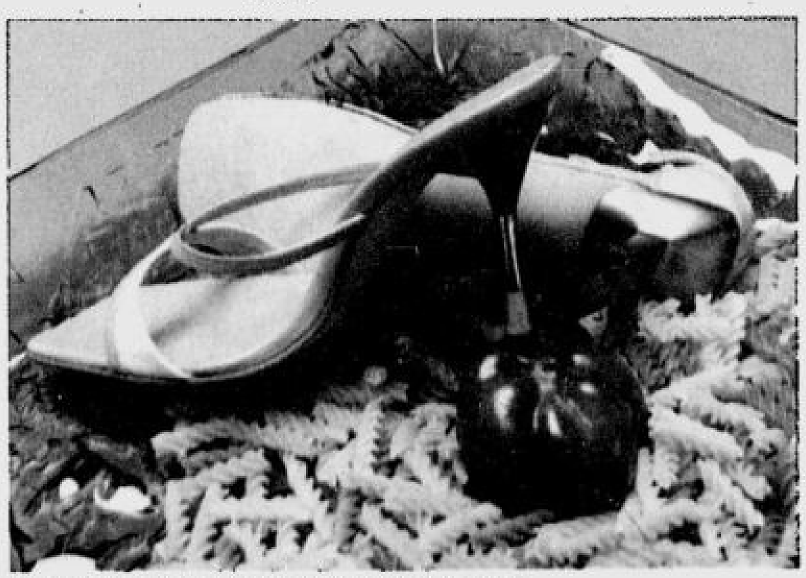
SPICY four-color high-heeled slides from CMG

TRENDY red wrap-around high-heeled sandals from CMG

CHIC white-on-beige slides from Celine



SASSY midcalf pointed toe and glam low boots from Celine



TWO-TONE strappy sandals with sexy metal heels

SHOES: CELINE, CMG AND JANYLIN
SPECIAL THANKS TO FLY ACE FOR THE FEDERICI PASTA

More excuses to shop for shoes

CAN a woman own just one pair of shoes? In any shape or color, shoes stand out in any woman's shopping list. It seems you can never have enough.

HSBC's Red MasterCard, the first and only credit card for women, which understands every woman's passion for shoes, recently launched another shopping fantasy come true—now with five times the chances.

With the new Red MasterCard Shoe Shopping Fantasy, cardholders get the chance to be one of five lucky winners of P100,000 each, to spend in one day on their favorite shoes. Not even Cinderella, with her fairy godmother, got this kind of a deal.

The chances to win are limitless. If you already have a Red MasterCard, you can shop your way to a shoe-shopping spree. Every P500 card spending automatically earns you one raffle number.

You earn more chances when you refer qualified friends to apply for a Red MasterCard. Upon approval of her application, you get a raffle number and a P500 credit to your RED MasterCard account.

Approved applications for the Red MasterCard automatically get a raffle number and can duplicate their chances of winning by using their card or referring qualified friends.

HSBC's Red MasterCard Shoe Shopping Fantasy runs until Oct. 15. On Dec. 14, the five lucky cardholders will spend the day splurging on shoes with their P100,000 prize.

But since women will always find an excuse to buy another pair of shoes, HSBC's Red MasterCard offers exclusive discounts cardholders can enjoy instantly at Celine, CMG, Janylin, Planet Sports, Athlete's Foot, Nike Stadium, Traffic, Ohrelle, Le Donne, Karimadon, Francesco, T Shoes and Bags, Clarks, LA Gear, Fusion, Woman and Corso Marconi.

A special online promotion is also ongoing for visitors of HSBC's website, www.hsbc.com.ph. By simply guessing the number of shoes in the Red MasterCard Shoe Shopping Promo advert posted at the website, visitors get a chance to win a trip for two to Hong Kong.

Whether it's a chance to go on a shoe binge at home or a free trip to Asia's shopping capital where the latest shoe styles abound, it's a once-in-a-lifetime offer no shoe-a-holic woman can refuse.

Bazaar for the rainy season at The Fort

GOINGS-ON

FORT BONIFACIO visitors can look forward to another exciting shopping experience Aug. 17-18 with the "Shop@thefort" bazaar at the NBC Tent.

Organized by Karl Edward Int'l., the bazaar promises the widest choices of low-priced merchandise. Local and imported items will be available at rock-bottom prices. Also on sale are kitchen treats like homemade snacks, pastries and gourmet spreads.

Shoppers will have a chance to get for free the bazaar items of their choice, during the hourly raffle. The bazaar is open 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

CONCERT. UCCP Ellinwood Malate Church invites everyone to a night of music in "Sing Glory! A Choral Celebration," featuring its very own Festival Choir on Aug.18, 5 p.m., at the Main Sanctuary, Ellinwood Malate Church, 1660 Dr. A. Vasquez St., Malate, Manila. Admission is free. Call 523-6564/2884 or 813-5940.

SEMINAR. Behavioral Dynamics Inc., an agency that offers psychological testing services, invites company presidents, HR managers and professionals to a seminar, "Developing Management Competencies," Aug. 19-21 at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club, Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong, and on Aug. 26-28 at Waterfront Hotel, Lahug, Cebu City.

Call 920-3123, 448-5178/5179, (032) 254-2215 or (032) 412-9106 or e-mail bdicebu@skyinet.net.

EXHIBIT. The Festival Supermall in Filinvest, Alabang, Muntinlupa, holds the "Mother Nature Fair" until Aug. 28 at the Carousel. The two-week event features products for landscape and gardening, flowers and plants, health foods, herbal products, scents and aromatheraphy products, ceramics, juices and puree, wines and foods from the different regions of the country. Also on display are award-winning candles of the First Philippine Candle Design Competition. The exhibit is open 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Admission is free. Call 820-7879/1570.

PHOTO COURSE. The Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation offers short basic and advanced photo courses which will run for four consecutive Sundays for basic, and six Sundays for advanced. The courses will start on Aug. 18 at the Yslas Restaurante in Fort Santiago, Intramuros, Manila. Register at 7/F Comfoods Bldg., Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City, or call 843-6341 or 813-7420.

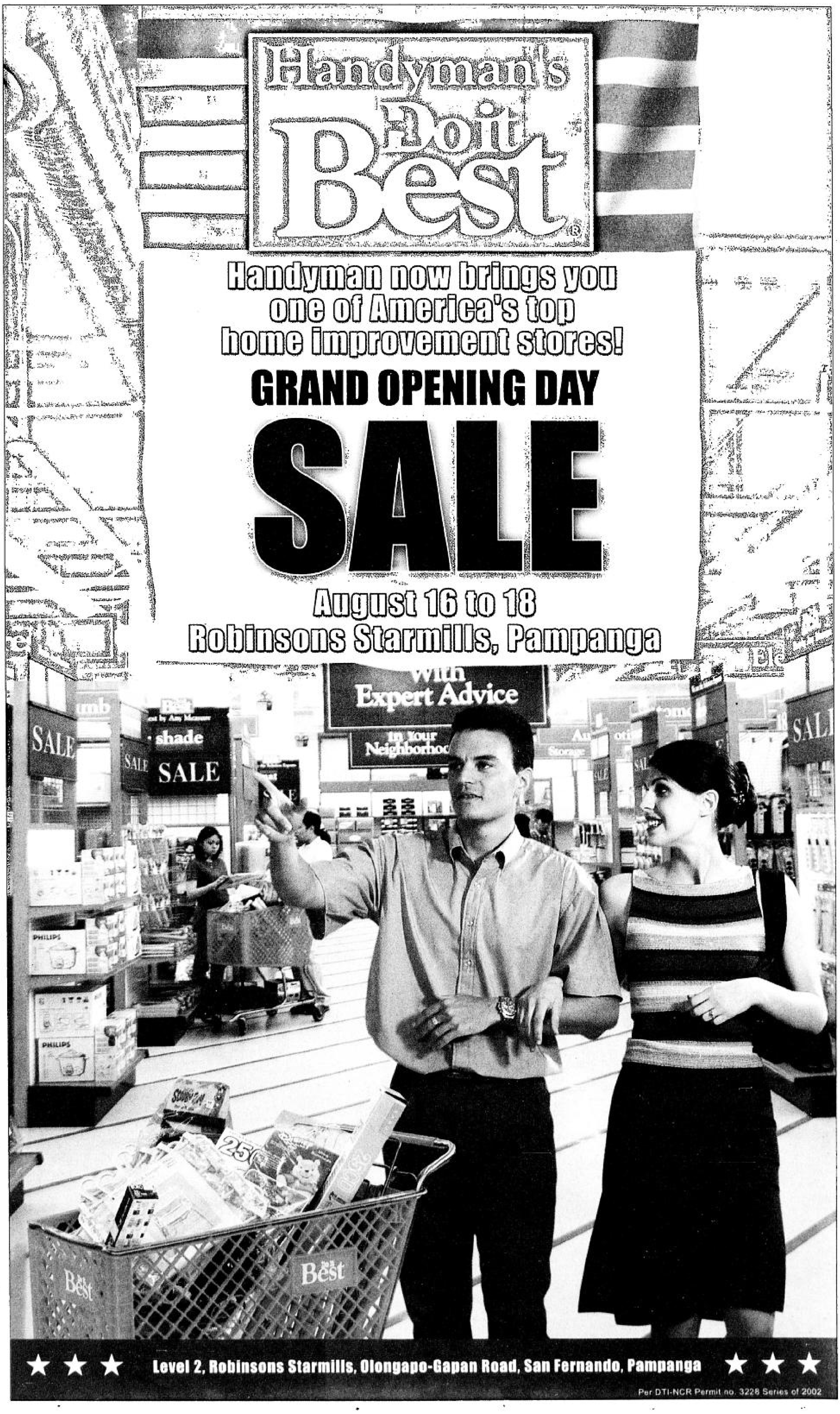
PROMO. Every 14th and 29th from August through October, set a date with your female friends for Manila Diamond Hotel is treating you to a 50-percent discount on food and beverage dining outlets. You can also save to treat yourself to the parlor or spa. The Diamond Spa is extending the same discount on massage and use of its facilities (exercise room, sauna, steam room and jacuzzi). Headzone at the Diamond is extending the same discount to ladies for haircut, shampoo and blow-dry services.

CONTEST. The Lipa City Plaza Independencia presents 21 budding singers who will compete in the longest running amateur singing contest in Batangas on Aug. 31. Dubbed "Project: Voices, Songs and Rhythms," the contest has two categories: *bulilit* portion and main portion. Finalists are monthly winners from the different barangays in Lipa. Judges for the grand finals are Nonoy Tan, Mon del Rosario, Louie Heredia, Alex Catedrilla, Bella Tan, Daisy Marasigan, Boy Christopher Ramos, Dennis Marasigan, Vic Valenciano and Pamfilo Baroja. Call (043) 756-7838, 312-0359/2149.

WORKSHOP. The Cultural Center of the Philippines presents the 2002 Hands-On Choral Workshop for amateur choirs Oct. 7-11 for Level I and Oct. 14-18 for Level II, 9 a.m.-12 nn and 2-5 p.m. The workshop will be conducted by National Artist for Music Andrea Veneracion and a team from the Philippine Madrigal Singers. CCP Hands-On Choral Workshop will compete in the 2002 Choral Olympics in Busan, Korea, in October. CCP will present Mga Koro ng Bayan on Sept. 14, 8 p.m., at the Tanghalang Nicanor Abelardo.

SEMINAR. What does it take to have an extraordinary life—every single day? The Landmark Education Forum will hold a three-day seminar Sept. 13-15 at the RCBC Plaza in Makati. The seminar will be led by Jerome Downes, one of Landmark Forum's senior directors. Topics will cover how to improve personal relationships, how to be more effective and productive, and how to bring about a permanent and positive shift in our lives. Call 722-4573, 851-8500, (0917) 667-9774, (0917) 910-4388. Tickets are at P7,500 per person.

APPLIANCE DISCOUNT. Metrobank Card Corp. teams up with Abenson's for the zero-percent interest promo on home appliances until Sept. 15. Simply use your Metrobank credit cards at any Abenson branch and buy quality brands at no interest for three, six, nine and 12 months. The lowest installment rates for up to 12 months are offered. Metrobank credit cards accepted for this promo are Metrobank Unicard, Metrobank Visa and Metrobank MasterCard. Call 870-0700.



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Deadline for entries to Color Trophy Awards set

L'OREAL Professionnel kicks off the prestigious Color Trophy Awards 2002. The L'Oreal Color Trophy Awards is the Oscars of the hairdressing profession the world over, and brings the crême de la crême of Philippine salons into a world-class arena. No other awards program brings Filipino stylists the excitement of dreams that lead to excellence and success.

The L'Oreal Color Trophy Awards focuses on creating forward-looking haircolor that is completely in synch not just with hairstyles, but also with a woman's total look. It's about haircolor that sparks a whole new sense of style—top-to-toe, that's up-to-the-minute yet so wearable any woman would love to have it. (A minimum of two and a maximum of three hair colors, working in harmony, and drawn exclusively from L'Oreal Professionnel's exciting range, must be used.)

This year, the L'Oreal Color Trophy Awards introduces an important new innovation—all entries submitted will be sent to the creative team of Paris-based Haute Coiffure Francaise for prejudging. The Haute Coiffure Francaise is a trendsetting, elite circle of stylists who have been partners of the French haute couture fashion world for generations. It will select 15 finalists who shall be presented at the awards night in Manila in October.

Deadline for all entries is Aug. 30 at the L'Oreal Professionnel offices located at 23/F Robinson-Equitable Tower, ADB Avenue corner Poveda Street, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. All entries must be accompanied by two 5x7" colored headshots and must not have been submitted previously to any other hairdressing competition. Finalists will be notified on Sept. 23. Call 687-4967.

Another Spanish 'invasion'

RUSTAN'S introduces Amichi, a Spanish brand of fashionable women's clothing. Fresh, young and vibrant, Amichi has clothes for any occasion and to capture the mood of each season.

Amichi's collection includes City line, clothes with simple cuts ideal for the working woman. It combines timeless pieces with trendy accents.

The Casual line offers comfortable clothes in vibrant colors that can be worn on informal occasions, from casual lunches with friends to evening movie dates. It includes cropped knit tops, baby tees and light cardigans paired with colorful pants cut to follow the body's contour.

Silken tops and dark tight jeans, as well as safari-inspired ensembles, comprise the Trendy line.

The Amichi collection offers classically designed pieces that go beyond any trend. One of the fastest growing companies today, Amichi's philosophy is to create pieces that meet the needs of today's fashion-conscious woman.

Established in 1985, the company now has 120 outlets worldwide, the latest is at Rustan's Makati, a 100-sq-m corner at the ladies' division on the third level.

For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

Trend Spotting

LIFE-STYLED

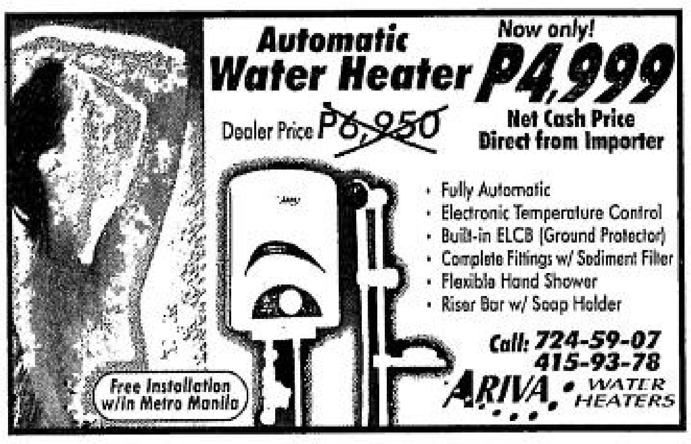
Thelma Sioson San Juan

'Sex and the City' and the Filipina schizo

AT THE preview of the season's last episodes of "Sex and the City" ("SATC") last Monday, AP correspondent Carmela Cruz asked me why the Asian woman today could relate to this hottest cable TV series, and how.

Until then, I hadn't really faced that question—the psychological/emotional hook of "SATC" on Asian women. What I had scrutinized was how "SATC" had made fashion trends and brands for its millions of female

SEX/ p.G4



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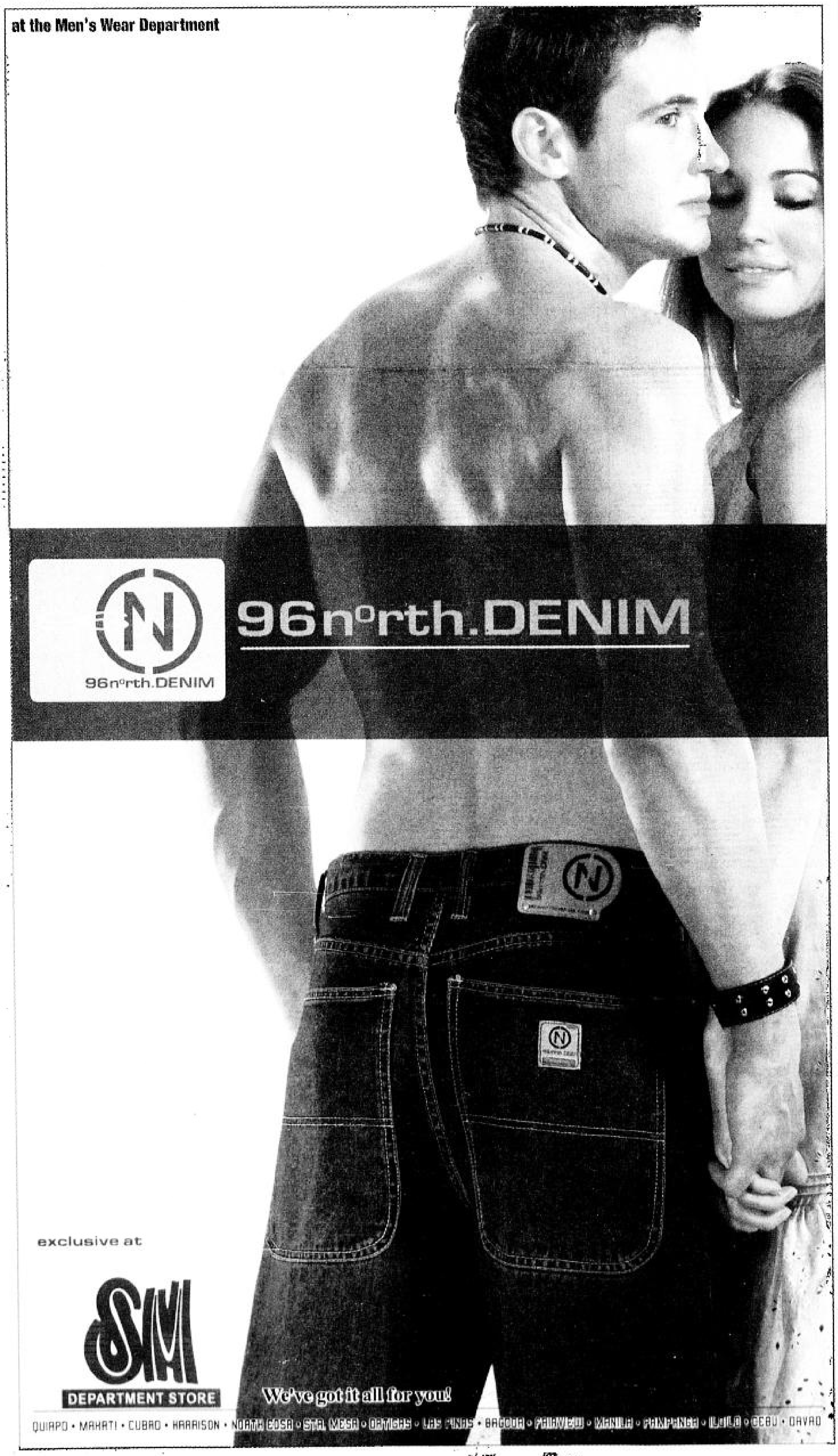

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Jollibee Journal

DIAL 8-7000 FOR JOLLIBEE LANGHAP-SARAP GOODNESS

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Hungry at home? Having an instant party? Call for a Jollibee Delivery by just dialing 8-7000.

With a catchy new number, Jollibee's Delivery Service is a fast and convenient way to beat your hunger pangs in just about anywhere in Metro Manila.

With more than 250 riders and over 80 delivery stores in the Metro Manila area, Jollibee offers total satisfaction as customers are assured of getting their favorite Chickenjoy, juicy hamburgers, and yummy spaghetti delivered hot and fresh, right at their doorsteps. The 8-7000 Delivery Service is available within the Metro Manila area and runs from 7 am to 9 pm, Mondays to Sundays.

Now, having your fill of your favorite *Langhap-sarap* goodness at any time of the day is just a quick phone call away.

HAPPY EVER AFTER AT JOLLIBEE-CALASIAO, DAGUPAN

Hail to the new young monarchs of the Jollibee store in Calasiao, Dagupan!

After an extensive search far and wide, little Brent Nhel Ramos and Nicole Malaveda were crowned as this year's Jolly Prince and Princess at the Dagupan City Museum. The coronation night caps the 4th anniversary celebration of Jollibee-Calasiao.

The newly crowned Jolly Prince and Princess and their kiddie royal court.

This year's theme was fairy tales and contestants were all dressed in wonderful whimsical costumes.

Other winners include Aphol Grace Soingco (1st Princess), Bethel Marian Palisoc (2nd Princess), Lu Khan Aromin (1st Prince) and Allan Kristoffer Abutan (2nd Prince).

Congratulations to our new Jolly Prince and Princess and their royal court. May you live *bee happily* ever after!

JOLLIBEE'S HAPPY DOSE OF GOOD HEALTH AND GOODWILL

To commemorate 14 great years of *bee happy* service, the Jollibee store in New Farmer's Plaza, Cubao conducted a free medical mission to the senior citizens of nearby Bgy. Socorro.

Held at the *barangay* gym, the elderly were given free medical check-ups and health consultations by volunteer doctors and nurses, assisted by the friendly Jollibee staff and crew.

The Jollibee crew pose with volunteer workers and patients at the free medical mission in Socorro, Cubao.

A big thanks to Purifil and Drysdale who helped make this event possible and meaningful for the community of Socorro. May you *bee* blessed for your generosity.

COOL PRIZES AT JOLLIBEE-BANAWE

How do you enjoy a jolly good meal? With great music of course! That's what the newly inaugurated Jollibee store in Banawe-Ma. Clara, Quezon City had in mind when they recently raffled off some cool Jollibee mugs and Crossover CDs to 80 lucky store patrons.

Store officials and special guests who helped picked the winners included Managing Director Christine Villar-Pineda, Assistant Managing Director LJ Chipeco, Crossover President Louie Villar, Store Manager Romano Cataniag, Area Manager Rizza Salcedo, DTI Representative Victoria Babaran, and Marketing Services Officer Lahlah de las Alas.

Jollibee joins store officials and guests at the grand raffle draw in Jollibee-Banawe.

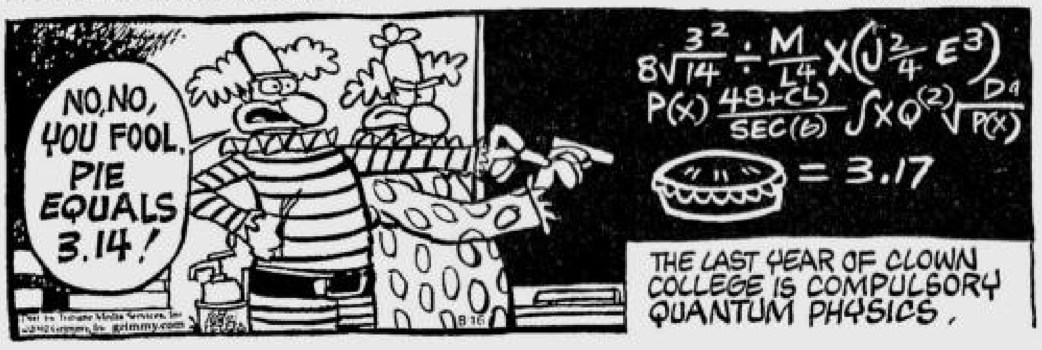
Congratulations to everyone and let's continue to make wonderful *bee happy* music together!

For feedback, comments, or suggestions, please write to:
Jollibee Journal
c/o The Marketing Division
Jollibee Plaza, Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Philippines
journal@jollibee.com.ph

bee happy
Langhap-Sarap sa Jollibee

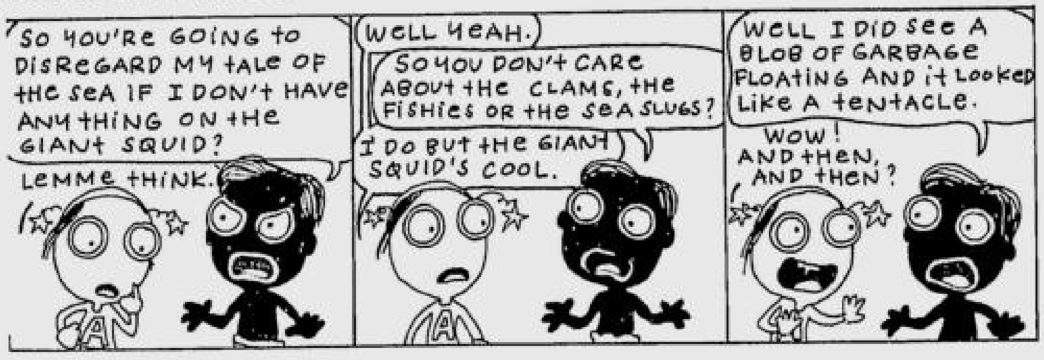
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


NO, NO, YOU FOOL, PIE EQUALS 3.14!
8√(3²/14) ÷ M/L4 X(J 2/4 E3)
P(X) 48+CL)/SEC(6) ∫XQ(2) √(D1/P(X))
= 3.17
THE LAST YEAR OF CLOWN COLLEGE IS COMPULSORY QUANTUM PHYSICS.
8.16
grimmy.com

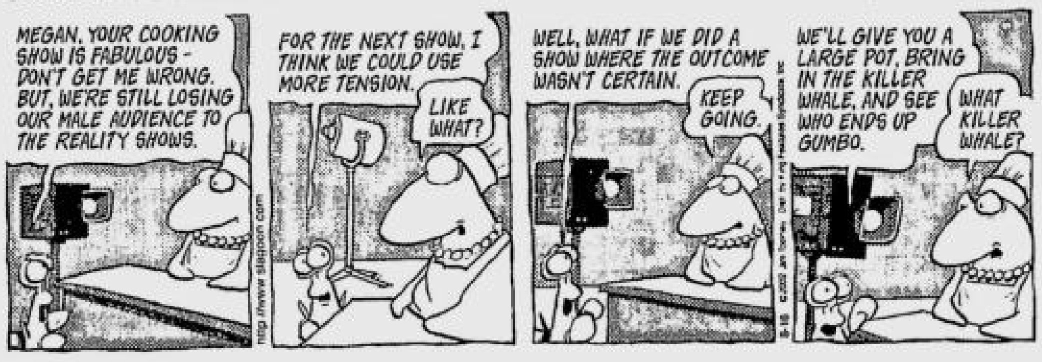
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


SO YOU'RE GOING TO DISREGARD MY TALE OF THE SEA IF I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON THE GIANT SQUID?
LEMME THINK.
WELL YEAH.
SO YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT THE CLAMS, THE FISHIES OR THE SEA SLUGS?
I DO BUT THE GIANT SQUID'S COOL.
WELL I DID SEE A BLOB OF GARBAGE FLOATING AND IT LOOKED LIKE A TENTACLE.
WOW! AND THEN, AND THEN?

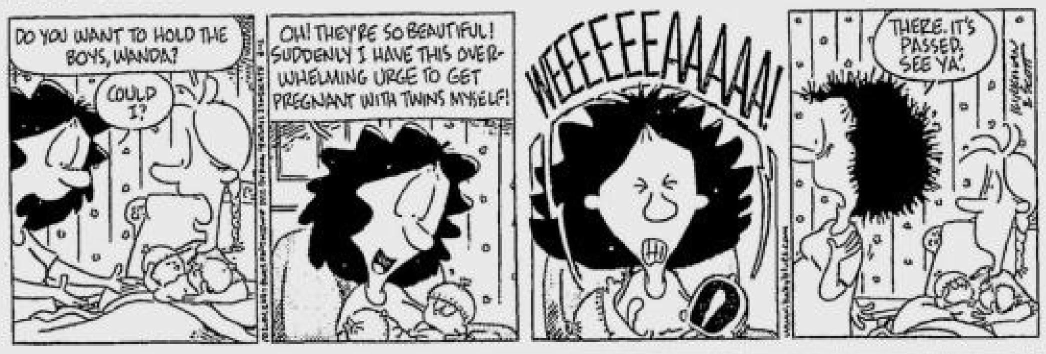
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


MEGAN, YOUR COOKING SHOW IS FABULOUS - DON'T GET ME WRONG. BUT, WE'RE STILL LOSING OUR MALE AUDIENCE TO THE REALITY SHOWS.
FOR THE NEXT SHOW, I THINK WE COULD USE MORE TENSION.
LIKE WHAT?
WELL, WHAT IF WE DID A SHOW WHERE THE OUTCOME WASN'T CERTAIN.
KEEP GOING.
WE'LL GIVE YOU A LARGE POT, BRING IN THE KILLER WHALE, AND SEE WHO ENDS UP GUMBO.
WHAT KILLER WHALE?
http://www.slagoon.com

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


DO YOU WANT TO HOLD THE BOYS, WANDA?
COULD I?
OH! THEY'RE SO BEAUTIFUL! SUDDENLY I HAVE THIS OVER-WHELMING URGE TO GET PREGNANT WITH TWINS MYSELF!
WEEEEEEAAAAA!
THERE. IT'S PASSED. SEE YA'.
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Madonna, Frank and Kathie Lee Gifford, Timothy Hutton

Happy Birthday: You will be headstrong and relentless. Know in your heart that you're doing the right thing, and you will succeed. Your aggressiveness will enable you to move forward. You will attract interesting partners who can contribute to your innovative ideas and your direction in life. Your numbers are 9, 13, 22, 31, 34, 47

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get involved in activities that are lively and challenging. Dancing or sports events will be invigorating. Romance should also be high on your list.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will be sensitive and emotional. You must protect yourself from people who make you angry or depressed. Focus on yourself and make some pleasing changes to your home.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You have to watch what you say today. If you exaggerate, you'll be caught. Social events will prove to be romantically enriching.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Go after a better position or ask for a raise. This is a great day to make positive moves that offer you a brighter future. You can make personal changes that will bring compliments.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll be riding high today, especially if you have some lively entertainment planned. Try new things and accept with confidence any challenge that comes your way. You'll be hard to beat and hard to resist.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't face your problems all by yourself. Talk to a relative who has experienced a similar dilemma. You need some outside input. Solutions can be found if you ask for help.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get moving and make plans to enjoy yourself. Friends will be eager to join you once they see how much fun you're having. This is your time to lead the group.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let your emotions cause you to do something silly financially. You may be looking for an investment, but you shouldn't take a risk. Look into organizations that will help you expand your circle of friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll be up and down emotionally today. Don't be fooled by someone who is being secretive. Make sure you have all the facts before getting involved in a joint venture.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may be surprised by the actions of someone you thought you knew well. Friendships will end as quickly as they began, so use discrimination when picking new friends or lovers. You will have a tendency to be self-deceptive.

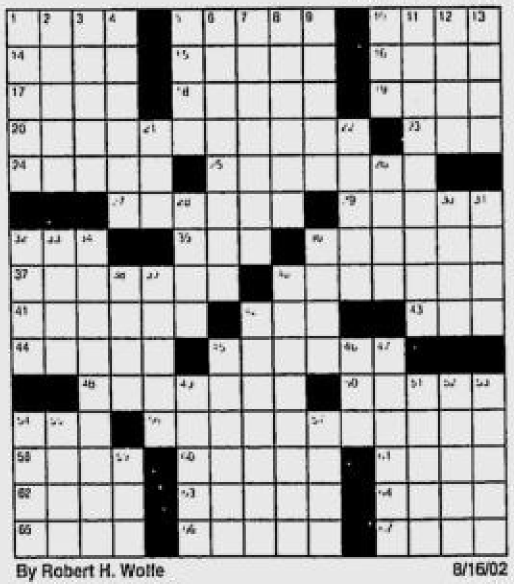
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can be the center of attention if you share your thoughts. If you're in a relationship, plan something special with your lover. If you're not, get out and find someone special.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may want to back off if you haven't been getting along with someone lately. Take time out to do something you enjoy doing alone. You may want to rethink your motives.

Birthday Baby: You will always be on the go and eager to try new things. You will be competitive, caring and creative in everything you do. Everyone will want to be on your team.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Robert H. Wolfe
North Woodmere, NY
8/16/02

ACROSS
1 Painter Holbein
5 Flavor enhancer
10 Elevator man
14 MP's prey
15 Inert gas
16 Run fast
17 Pelee outpouring
18 "Goodbye, Mr. Chips" star
19 Bond pic
20 Held motionless by a spell?
23 Giant Mel
24 Take care of
25 Repeating
27 Scarves
29 Huge
32 Neg.'s opposite
35 Possessive pronoun
36 __ in on (got close)
37 Rifts
40 Lack of harmony
41 Declares
42 Guys
43 Drink for two?
44 More docile
45 Animosity
48 Plains tribe
50 U.S. Grant's rival
54 __ Diego
56 Summon fish spirits?
58 Actor Danny
60 Doughy pastry
61 Puff's counterpart
62 Golf club
63 From then until now
64 Major ending
65 Potato
66 Sidled
67 Active one

DOWN
1 Stops
2 Not in the dark
3 Stellar blasts
4 Tills
5 "Smooth [illegible]" singer
6 Side views
7 Fire starter
8 Urges
9 Come in
10 Strange
11 Hawaiian genesis of prediction cards?
12 "Say it __ so!"
13 Injection
21 Barracks bed
22 Small valleys
26 DEA type
28 Resistance units
30 Richard of "Pretty Woman"
31 Early Icelandic poem
32 Attention getter
33 Eight: pref.
34 Tut, tut, thou magical priest?
36 Metallic element
38 Latin way
39 Creva[illegible]
40 Cond[illegible]
42 Chinese game
45 Rank
46 Prospector's pay dirt
47 Stank
49 Sheriff's followers
In a slow tempo
52 Select group
53 Odorific compound
54 Slalom equipment
55 Seniors' org.
57 Mouthpiece part
59 Conclude

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

S	L	U	R	S	■	D	U	M	A	■	E	R	A	S
A	E	S	O	P	■	E	G	A	D	■	R	I	C	H
M	I	A	M	I	■	C	L	I	O	■	A	G	R	A
■	■	■	P	E	N	C	I	L	P	U	S	H	E	R
R	O	B	■	L	E	A	■	■	T	S	E	T	S	E
A	Z	A	L	E	A	■	E	M	E	E	R	■	■	■
P	O	W	E	R	P	L	A	Y	E	R	■	W	E	T
I	N	D	O	■	■	I	S	M	■	■	D	I	V	A
D	E	Y	■	P	A	R	T	Y	P	O	O	P	E	R
■	■	■	G	A	L	A	S	■	I	N	T	E	N	D
S	T	R	A	I	T	■	■	W	E	B	■	S	T	Y
P	E	O	P	L	E	P	E	R	S	O	N	■	■	■
A	N	T	E	■	R	A	R	E	■	A	O	R	T	A
D	O	O	R	■	E	P	I	C	■	R	I	C	E	S
E	R	R	S	■	D	A	N	K	■	D	R	A	N	K

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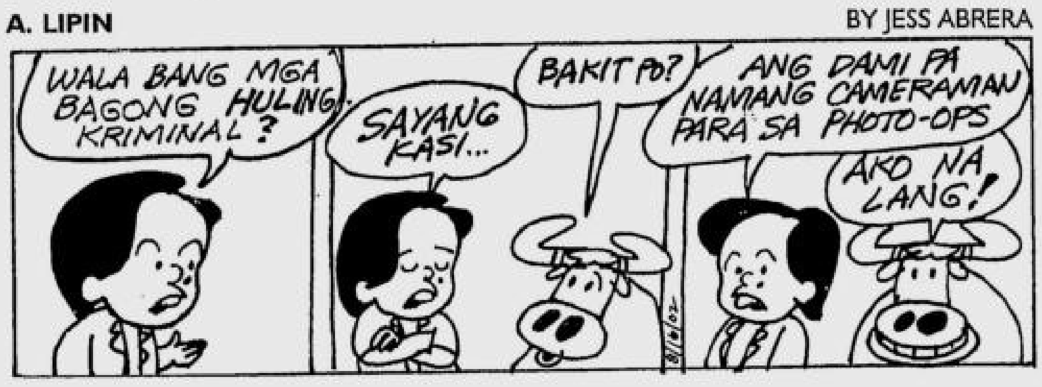
8/16/02

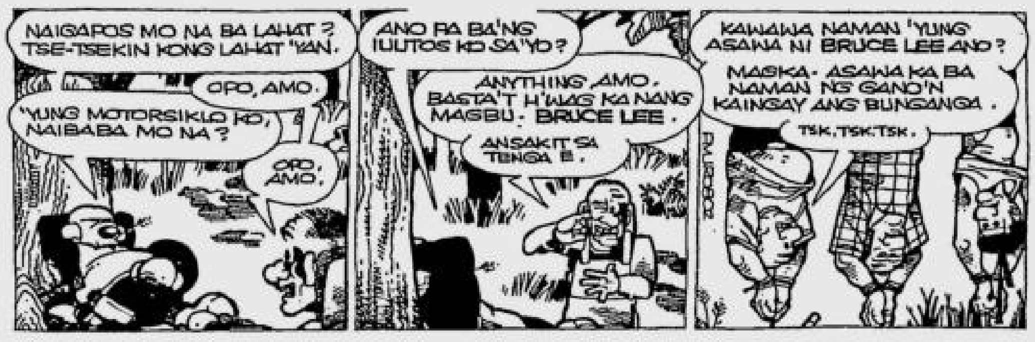
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


WALA BANG MGA BAGONG HULING KRIMINAL?
SAYANG KASI...
BAKIT PO?
ANG DAMI PA NAMANG CAMERAMAN PARA SA PHOTO-OPS
AKO NA LANG!
8/16/02

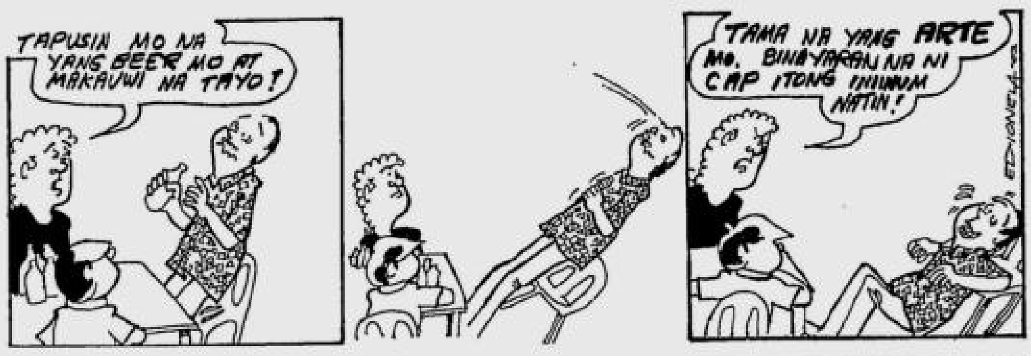
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


NAIGAPOS MO NA BA LAHAT? TSE-TSEKIN KONG LAHAT 'YAN.
OPO, AMO.
'YUNG MOTORSIKLO KO, NAIBABA MO NA?
OPO, AMO.
ANO PA BA'NG IUUTOS KO SA'YO?
ANYTHING, AMO. BASTA'T H'WAG KA NANG MAGBU- BRUCE LEE.
ANSAKIT SA TENGA E.
KAWAWA NAMAN 'YUNG ASAWA NI BRUCE LEE ANO?
MASKA- ASAWA KA BA NAMAN NG GANO'N KAINGAY ANG BUNGANGA.
TSK, TSK, TSK.

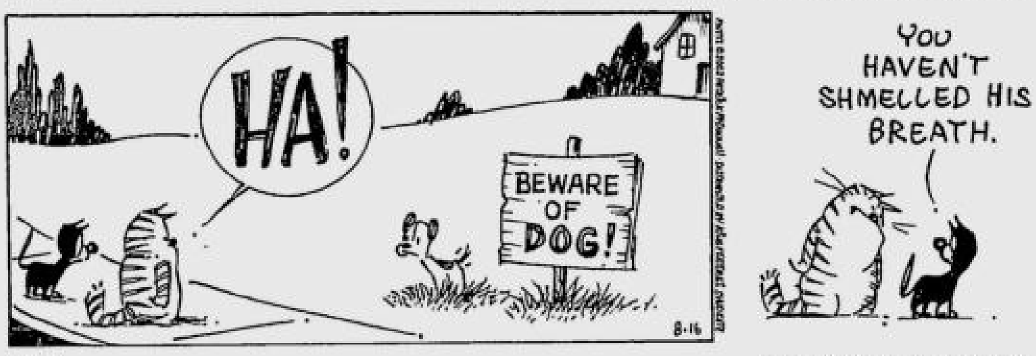
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


TAPUSIN MO NA YANG BEER MO AT MAKAUWI NA TAYO!
TAMA NA YANG ARTE MO. BINAYARAN NA NI CAP ITONG ININUM NATIN!
EDIONELA

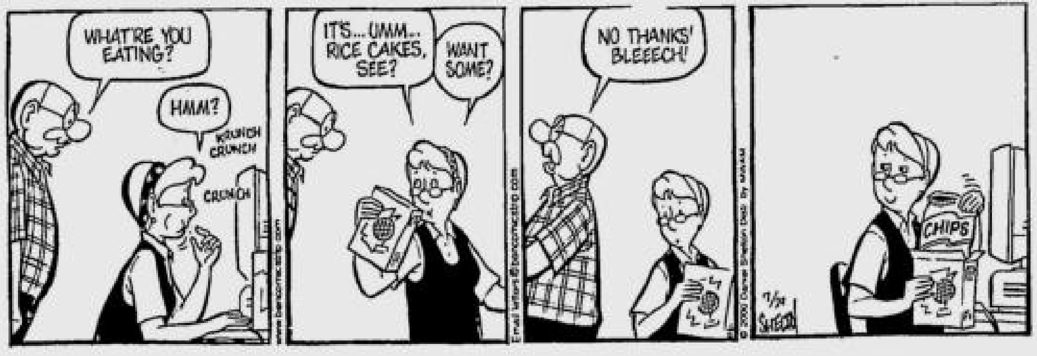
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


HA!
BEWARE OF DOG!
8-16
YOU HAVEN'T SHMELLED HIS BREATH.

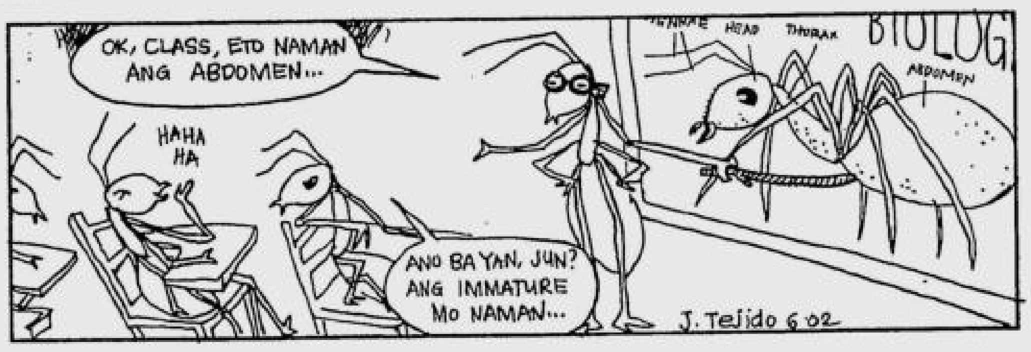
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


WHAT'RE YOU EATING?
HMM?
KRUNCH CRUNCH
CRUNCH
IT'S... UMM.. RICE CAKES, SEE?
WANT SOME?
NO THANKS! BLEEECH!
CHIPS
SHELTON

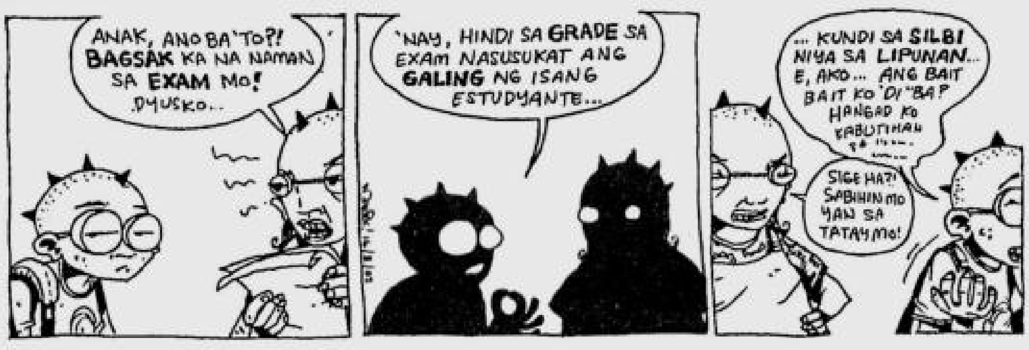
MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


OK, CLASS, ETO NAMAN ANG ABDOMEN...
HAHA HA
ANO BA YAN, JUN? ANG IMMATURE MO NAMAN...
HEAD
THORAX
ABDOMEN
BIOLOG
J. Tejido 6 02

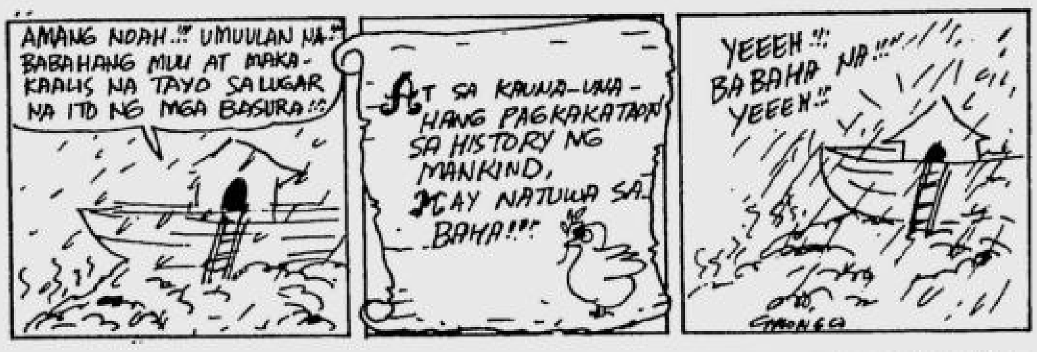
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


ANAK, ANO BA 'TO?! BAGSAK KA NA NAMAN SA EXAM MO! DYUSKO..
'NAY, HINDI SA GRADE SA EXAM NASUSUKAT ANG GALING NG ISANG ESTUDYANTE...
... KUNDI SA SILBI NIYA SA LIPUNAN... E, AKO... ANG BAIT BAIT KO 'DI BA? HANGAD KO KABUTIHAN
SIGE HA?! SABIHIN MO YAN SA TATAY MO!

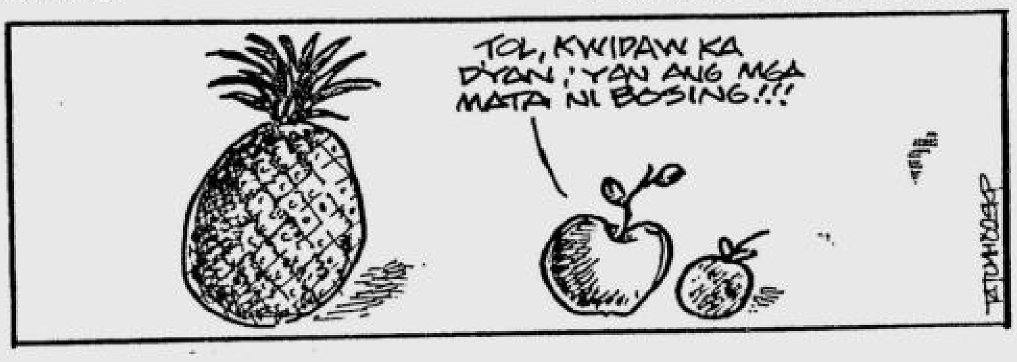
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


AMANG NOAH..!! UMUULAN NA!! BABAHANG MULI AT MAKA-KAALIS NA TAYO SA LUGAR NA ITO NG MGA BASURA!!
AT SA KAUNA-UNA-HANG PAGKAKATAON SA HISTORY NG MANKIND, MAY NATUWA SA BAHA!!!
YEEEH!! BABAHA NA!!! YEEEH!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


TOL, KWIDAW KA DYAN! YAN ANG MGA MATA NI BOSING!!!
TATUM

Kiddie wear with character

ROMANTIC outfits from Barbie's collection

ROMANTIC outfit from the Winnie the Pooh collection

IT'S a cast of cute and lovable characters as the SM Department Store celebrates its Cartoon Festival this August.

While mascots visits, great buys and surprises await kids at the store, the excitement continues with fun fashion for little girls. Watch them dress with style and—character—with clothes inspired by their favorite cartoon friends—the Powerpuff Girls, Barbie, Winnie the Pooh, Disney Princess, Scooby Doo, Snoopy, Garfield, Moose Gear and the Looney Tunes gang.

Ranging from colorful tees to touches of things romantic, the collection is cool, cute and definitely with lots of character. It is available at the Children's Wear Department of all SM stores.

WHITE asymmetrical top and pink pants with Powerpuff Girls embroideries

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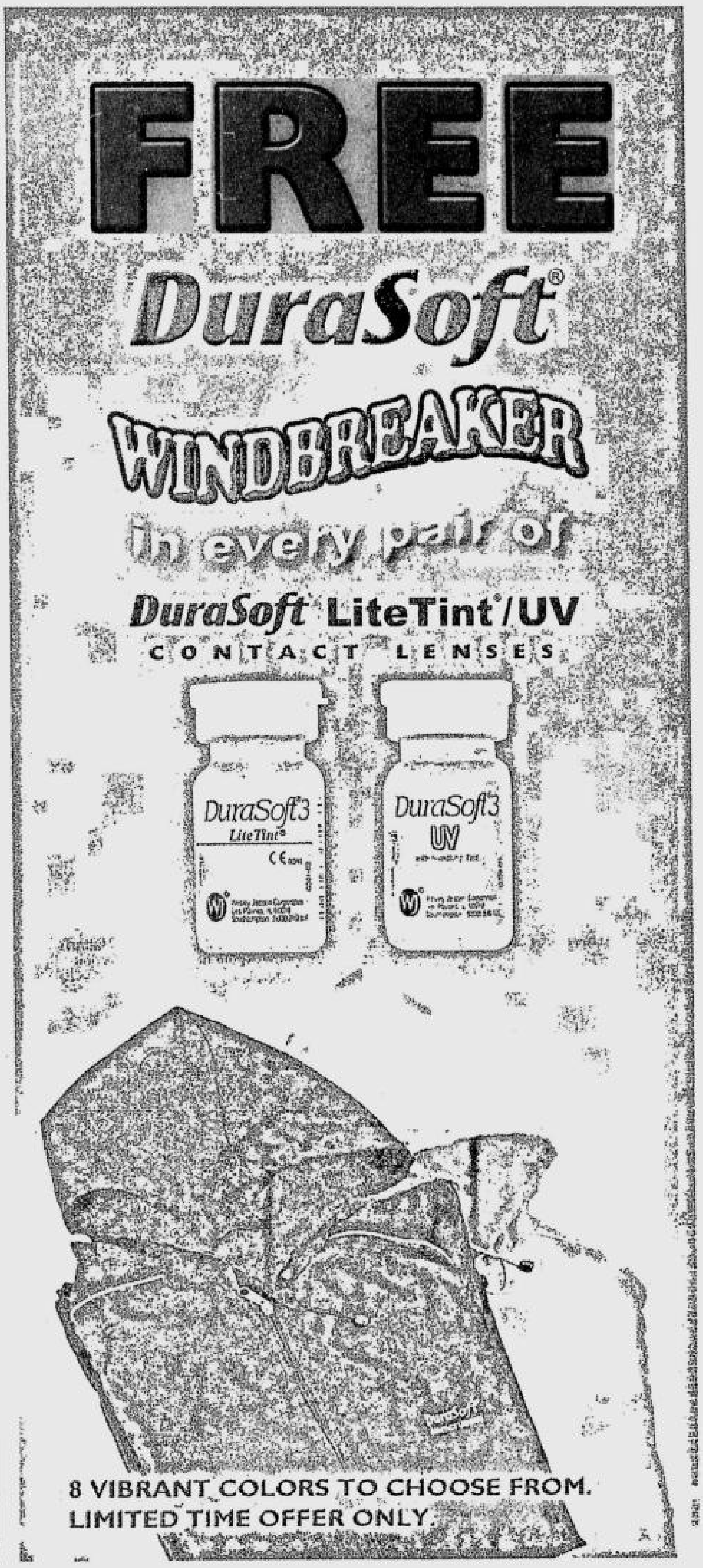
Provides remarkable shape retention that would last even after several wash

available in leading department stores nationwide



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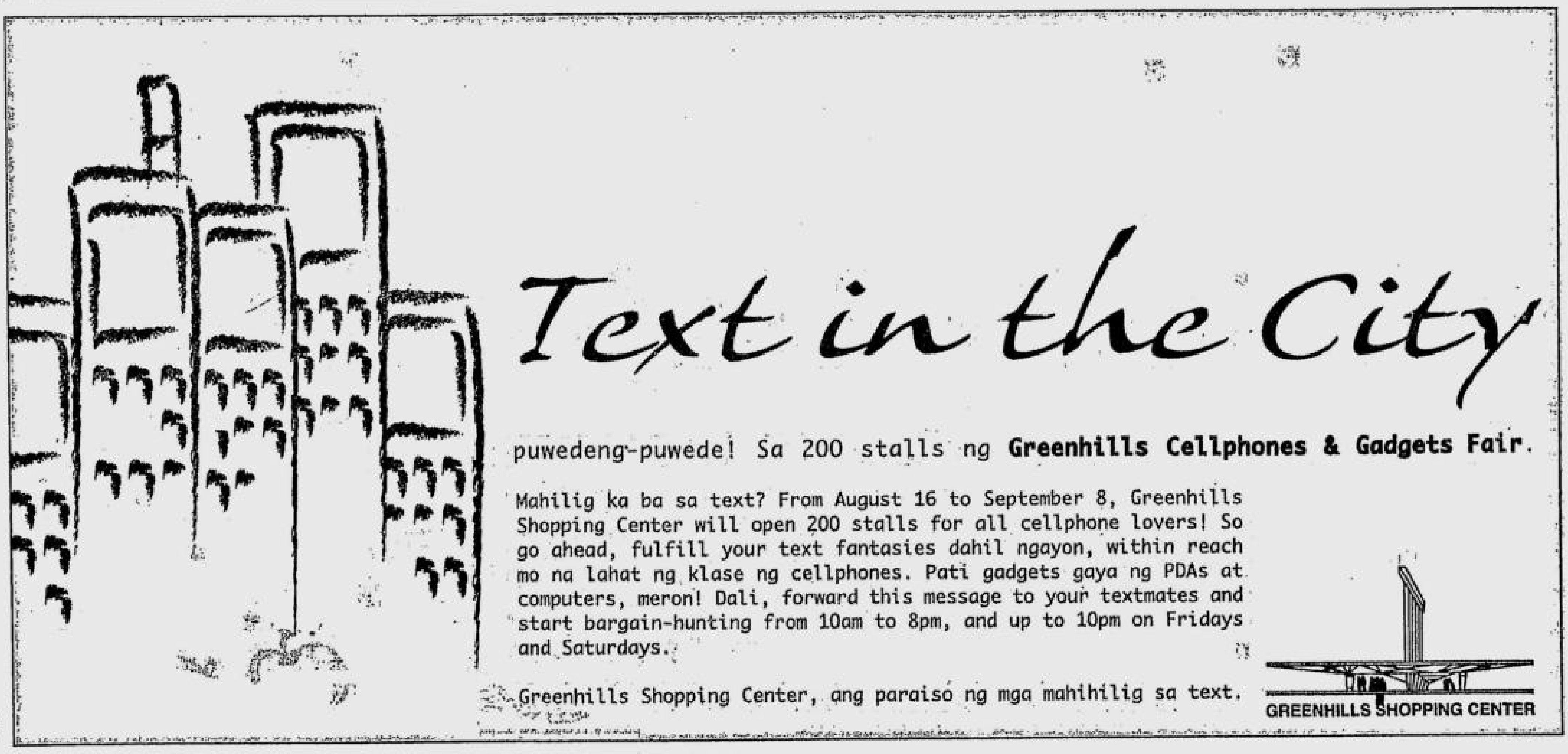

Text in the City

puwedeng-puwede! Sa 200 stalls ng **Greenhills Cellphones & Gadgets Fair**.

Mahilig ka ba sa text? From August 16 to September 8, Greenhills Shopping Center will open 200 stalls for all cellphone lovers! So go ahead, fulfill your text fantasies dahil ngayon, within reach mo na lahat ng klase ng cellphones. Pati gadgets gaya ng PDAs at computers, meron! Dali, forward this message to your textmates and start bargain-hunting from 10am to 8pm, and up to 10pm on Fridays and Saturdays.

Greenhills Shopping Center, ang paraiso ng mga mahihilig sa text.

GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER

‘Sex and the City’ and the Filipina schizo

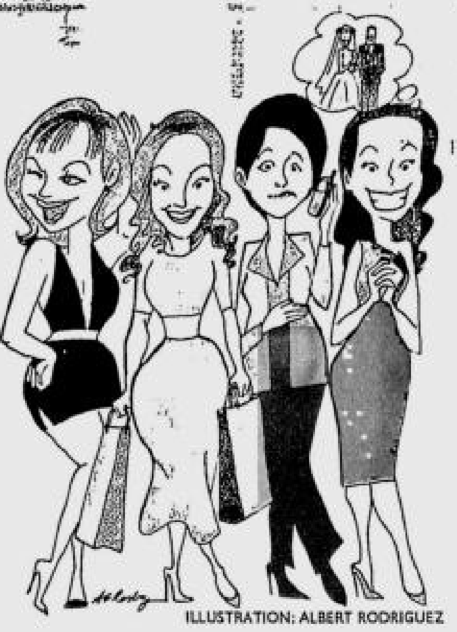
ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

How can the Filipina identify with this racy series? Here’s a checklist

From page G1

Viewers worldwide, like who doesn't know of Carrie's (Sarah Jessica Parker) fetish for Manolo Blahniks? "SATC's" women, especially Carrie, only have to don them—from clothes to accessories—and women scramble for them in the stores. Examples: camellia and floral accents, name necklaces, and so on. That's just how brands and styles are made these days (there are Pied Pipers to lead the herd).

There's even an online auction of clothes, accessories, jewelry worn by "SATC" characters in the series. Never has TV merchandising been as consummate as that.

But the psychic hold of “SATC” on Asian/Filipino women?

To begin with, "SATC" is well written and thus, isn't bad entertainment. It's a feat for its three or so writers to push the envelope, so to speak, each time, doing borderline topics such as venereal diseases, oral sex, lesbian affairs, and not freefall into the pit of vulgarity and sheer voyeurism.

It's not easy to write humor and satire into a Charlotte who finds herself married to a wealthy, socially desirable guy who can't get it up.

So does "SATC's" popularity mean Asian/Filipino women can identify with them? Sweepingly and generally, I said the Asian women, including the Filipinas, have, at the least, dual personalities—conservative/modern, traditional/iconoclast, virgin/wild—and at the most, as my gay friend Louie Cruz loves to say, 16 personalities; a schizo, in short.

Right, the 21st-century woman has to be a schizo to be able to roll with the punches of daily existence, from the boardroom to the bed.

Asian/Filipino women love to bare those cleavages, midribs and thighs, to do the night scene, from gulping down cosmopolitan at the bar to doing wine connoisseurship at the dinner table, to seem so fiercely independent and comfortably swinging (on to doing sex as casual). But, at the end of the day, deep inside her, she's arranging for a man-and-hearth in a neat package, to walk down the aisle in a Vera Wang (or Inno Sotto, Auggie Cordero, Pitoy Moreno, Rajo Laurel), to put her career/office on hold or on call while expecting hubby to build her a designer home or an out-of-town weekend hideaway, and snag a country club membership to boot. All this, of course, while he stays strictly faithful.

A bachelor friend, who obviously loves his bachelorhood and annual bottomline, doesn't fully buy today's woman's vaunted independence (financial, psychological and so forth). He says, "They proclaim they are (independent), but you know, once you get married, they expect you to fully provide for them. What about partnership or dual breadwinning? God, if only they can get that act tight until the walk to the altar. But no, you find them out even before the engagement." Good timing, at least. But that works for both genders—men can seem independent, too, until you discover their psychological makeup is a marshmallow.

In the season's last episode, find out how the all-sex-no-need-for-love character of Samantha suddenly fights for monogamy and love (the "L" word) with tragic-hilarious results.

Indeed, the "SATC" characters show the multi-layers of today's woman—and man. Their needs and obsessions, their self-indulgences, their pretensions, their pursuits. The checklist:

Bonding. Something you need at the end of a harrowing day, be it with your girl friends or gay friends. Keeps your sanity. It's not limited to "SATC." As Hugh Grant's "About a Boy" says, you need backup. "No man is an island." ("About a Boy" is a must-see, if you want irony and laughter.)

Shopping. Not only keeps your sanity, keeps you up-to-date, too, when you study the looks of Carrie and the girls. Also, how they max out their credit cards and sweep their bank account empty. So, uh, realistic.

Sex. "SATC" gets off the cliff sometimes. Just watching their bed- and relationship-hopping leaves you more exhausted than envious. If that's so New York, I don't know if the Filipina can be all that so-New York. But I also hear that these days, casual sex is really all that casual already, especially among girls who are hopping on the fast lane and want things even faster. The Filipina empowered in corporations and in business can also do the cast-couching (sexual harassment in reverse), I hear, and treat sex as a regular fix they must have, and leave men with no choice after dinner. But I promise "Mrs. M" (the ed in chief, if you're not in the know) to do that for another column, when I have enough data, cases and enough unsuspecting sources I can quote.

Relationships. Other than sales targets, that's a goal that's hard to reach and keep these days. You have no idea how many books and magazines "relationship" issues have sold. And while we're at it, how Kris Aquino's selling front-page stories.

Self-esteem. If this is what you want, shopping isn't enough. I still can't figure out why through so many seasons, the "SATC" girls can't have "self-esteem" down pat. Perhaps after the series bags more Emmys, Parker's Carrie at least will have self-esteem secured under lock and key. Or perhaps if their characters work more than they sleep around (oooh, that's judgmental, I know).

Beauty and age. Watch out for how Sam pits skills with a 21-year-old. The 50-ish get threatened by the 40-ish who then get threatened by the 30-ish, who yet get threatened by the 20-ish, and so on down the beauty chain.

Angst and emptiness. This is what "SATC" has more and more of through the episodes, prompting my gay friend to say, at the end of last Thursday's preview, "You know, I get depressed when I watch it. Like I need to smoke and drink throughout." My other friend replied, "But that's real. New York can be depressing, especially after 9-11."

I don't think angst and emptiness depend on a place, although a huge impersonal city can really smoke it out. I think that happens when you have no sense of center, no anchor. (You think they can incorporate "The Little Prince" in "SATC"? Just asking.)

I agree that "SATC" is getting darker with each episode. Carrie's character is getting so angst-filled, the less she weighs the heavier the demons she grapples with. Sometimes, the characters are more pathetic than funny. Nevertheless, I realized "SATC's" drawing power last Thursday as we were besieged with calls for more tickets to its preview at Rockwell's Power Cinema (our Metro and Guide magazines sponsored it with HBO, along with Jun de Leon's photo exhibit). We screened the last four episodes of the season, including that where Carrie worked at Vogue.

I won't preempt your watching it on cable. Just don't miss the part where Carrie's led to the accessories department of Vogue, with Candice Bergen playing the part of editor so beautifully. Designer Rhett Eala was guffawing every few minutes of the screening. Even Pitoy Moreno, seated beside Angela Arroyo, had a good laugh.

Also don't miss the last episode where Mr. Big reappears. It has "Moon River" playing through it, leaving our woman managers, especially Sandy Henson, swooning and teary-eyed as they walked out of the theater. (Or did the tears come in anticipation of my sweet temper in the review of the event?)

So, with what character can the Filipina/Asian woman identify on "SATC"? In the absence of a poll, I guess, a little of each one, because today's woman is a schizo. A healthy schizo, if she's able to laugh at herself, and her man.

E-mail the author at tsanjuan@skyinet.net

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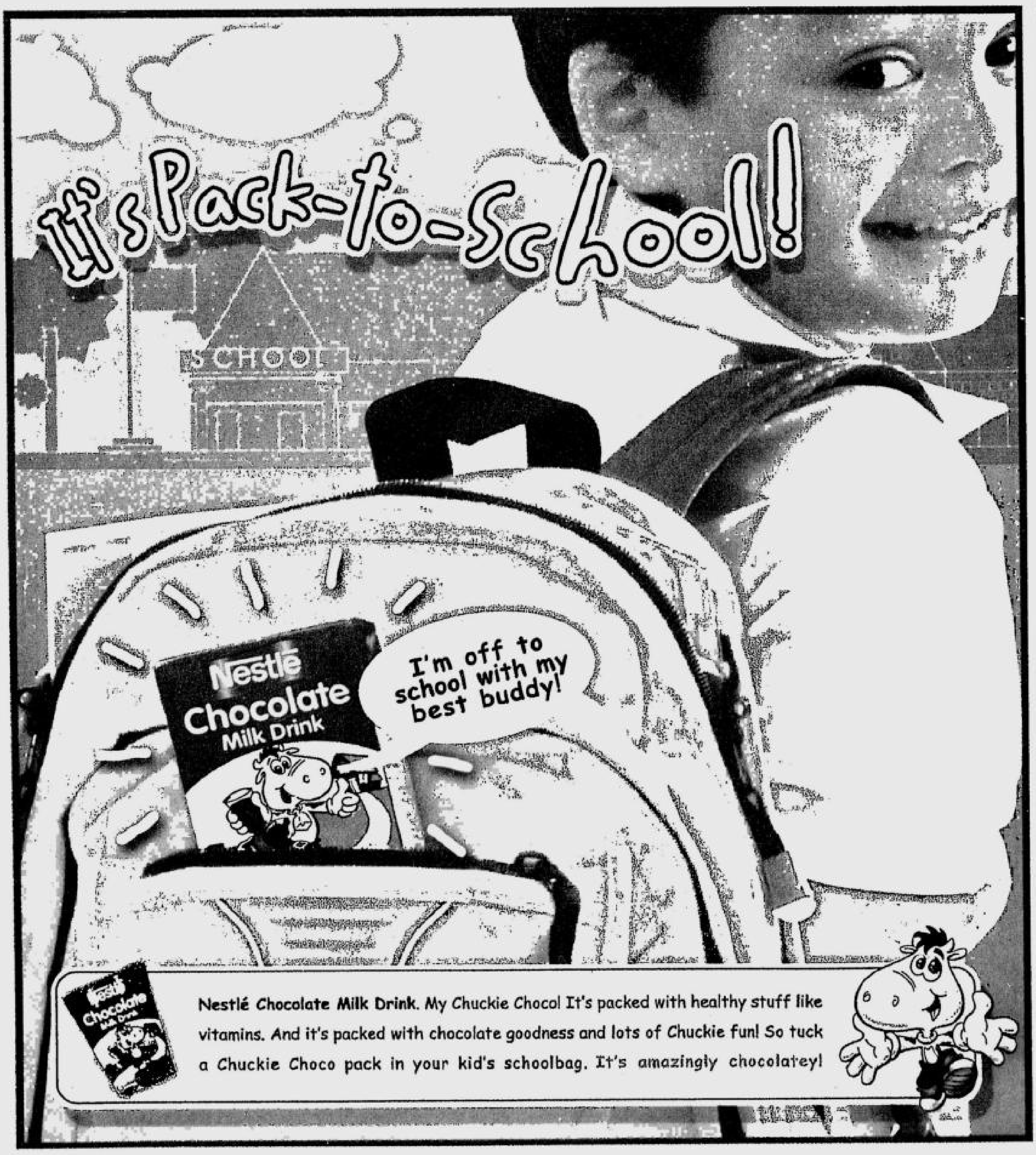

It's Pack-to-School!
SCHOOL
Nestlé Chocolate Milk Drink
I'm off to school with my best buddy!

Nestlé Chocolate Milk Drink. My Chuckie Choco! It's packed with healthy stuff like vitamins. And it's packed with chocolate goodness and lots of Chuckie fun! So tuck a Chuckie Choco pack in your kid's schoolbag. It's amazingly chocolatey!

ESLA expands network of stores

By Marlet D. Salazar

THIS week, mark your calendars red as the Emilio S. Lim Appliances (Esla) celebrates its 35th year with the return of its anniversary sale, the launch of the new Esla fans, and the grand opening and blessing of its newly transferred store in Meycauayan, Bulacan. The leader in self-financed and personalized installment sales also prepared exciting promo deals and packages for its loyal patrons.

Robert Lim, chief executive officer of Esla, considers this as "the biggest sale ever and most of the promotions are geared toward our repeat customers." Repeat customers happen to be those who practically completed their line of household appliances through Esla. After a 10-year break, Lim revives the annual sale to show gratitude to their clientele who helped them withstand the challenges of the business for three-and-a-half decades.

Promo deals and packages

Among the number of promotions buyers—especially installment basis buyers—shouldn't fail to check out are the Last Month Payment Free, First Month Payment Free, and No Cash Out promos. The Last Month Payment Free will depend largely on how a good payer you are. The last month payment will be waived if you pay on time in the succeeding months. This promo applies to repeat customers. And here's a great deal for "old" clients: the last two payments shall be waived as long as the previous payments were paid at the appointed time.

The First Month Payment Free will allow the buyer to pay only on the second month as long as he gives a minimum amount of deposit for the item he wishes to buy. Along with this promotion is the Combo Deal where the same customer will again be given the last payment free depending on their prompt payments.

The cash basis buyers are not left out as Esla assures that there are great deals in store for them in this appliance fair.

Introducing the ESLA fans

As if these exciting packages are not enough, Esla launches its new line of electric fans ready to give other premium brands a run for their money. To be manufactured by time-tested Union brand, the Esla fans will serve as a test product for the future Esla appliances. Why Union? "Because it is a well-known electric fan maker plus it has been consistent in quality as far as our research in their background and history are concerned," says Lim. "We decided to come up with our own brand because we thought by promoting our name it would be adding value to our product we sell," he adds. Six models of the new Esla fans will grace the anniversary sale. The choice is yours:

- Industrial fan—18" 3-speed rotary type Ground Fan
- 18" 3-speed rotary type Stand Fan
- Living fan—16" 3-speed rotary switch Living Fan
- Stand fan—16" 3-speed push button switch Stand Fan
- Wall fan—16" 3-speed push button switch Stand Fan
- Desk fan—16" 3-speed push button switchDesk Fan

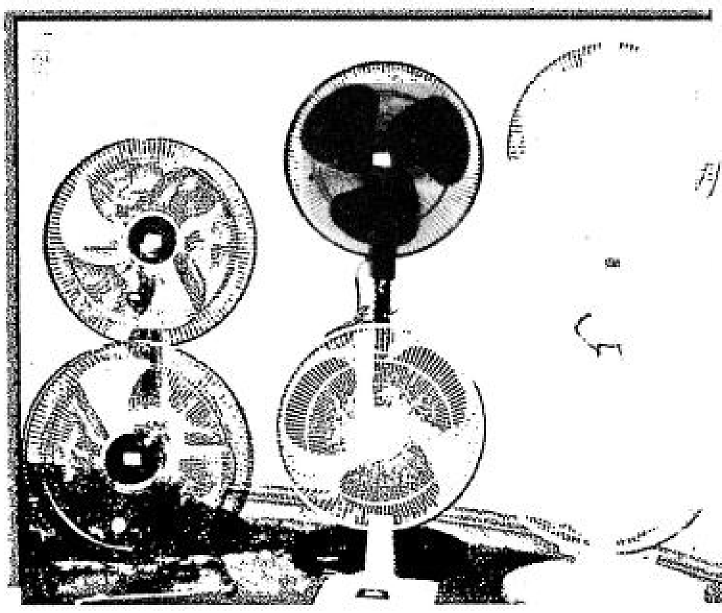
New store

But the celebration doesn't end there. Adding to the Esla milestone is the opening of its newest

ESLA/H2

EMILIO S. LIM APPLIANCES
NOW OPEN!
SANYO
SANYO
EMILIO S. LIM
APPLIANCES
35 Years
50 Stores
SALE
HITACHI
35 Years
50 Stores
SALE
HITACHI

GRAND opening and blessing of the newly transferred store at Meycauayan, Bulacan. Located at Maristel I Bldg., MacArthur Highway, Calvario, Meycauayan, Bulacan, telephone numbers (044) 840-0030/840-0391/0919-515-8250.



ESLA FAN

Industrial fan (ETG-18)—18" 3-speed rotary type Ground Fan; 18" 3-speed rotary type Stand Fan (ETS-18); Living fan (ELF-16)—16" 3-speed rotary switch Living Fan; Stand fan (ESF-16)—16" 3-speed push button switch Stand Fan; Wall fan (EWF-16)—16" 3-speed push button switch Stand Fan; Desk fan (EDF-16)—16" 3-speed push button switch Desk Fan

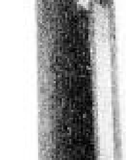
Looks beautiful, on or off.
SHARP
XB-80
21V-L330XB

Sharp looks start with the design.
NEW SHARP L-SERIES PRIMO
***With Energy Saving Function** that lets you determine screen brightness* • 181 Channel-Cable Compatible Tuner • Three Language Menu on Display • Auto-off • Full Function Remote Control • Auto Search Channel Memory

21V-L230S
51 cm.(21") MTS Stereo

20V-L230S
48 cm.(20") MTS Stereo

21V-L110M
51 cm. (21") Twin Speaker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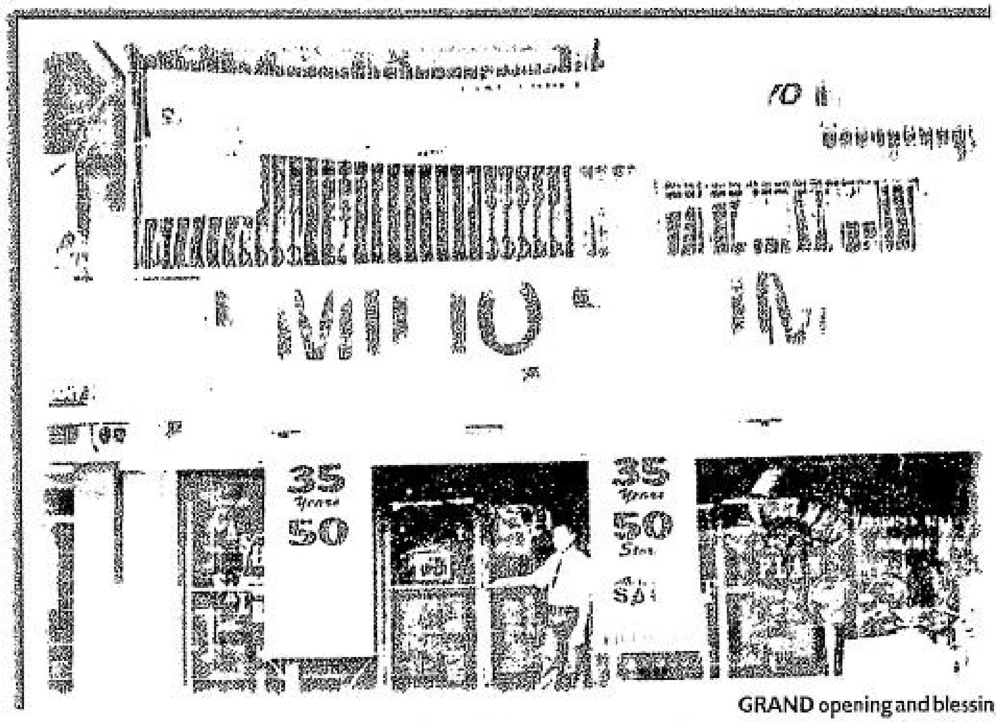
ESLA,H2



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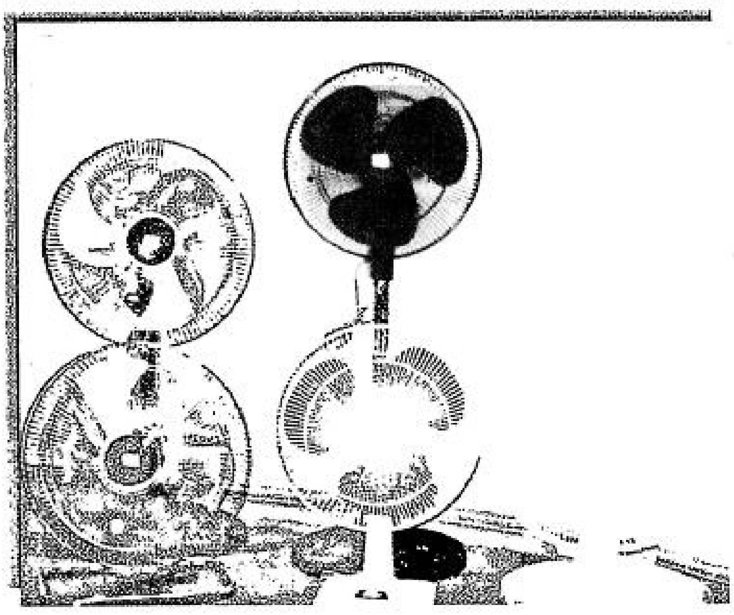

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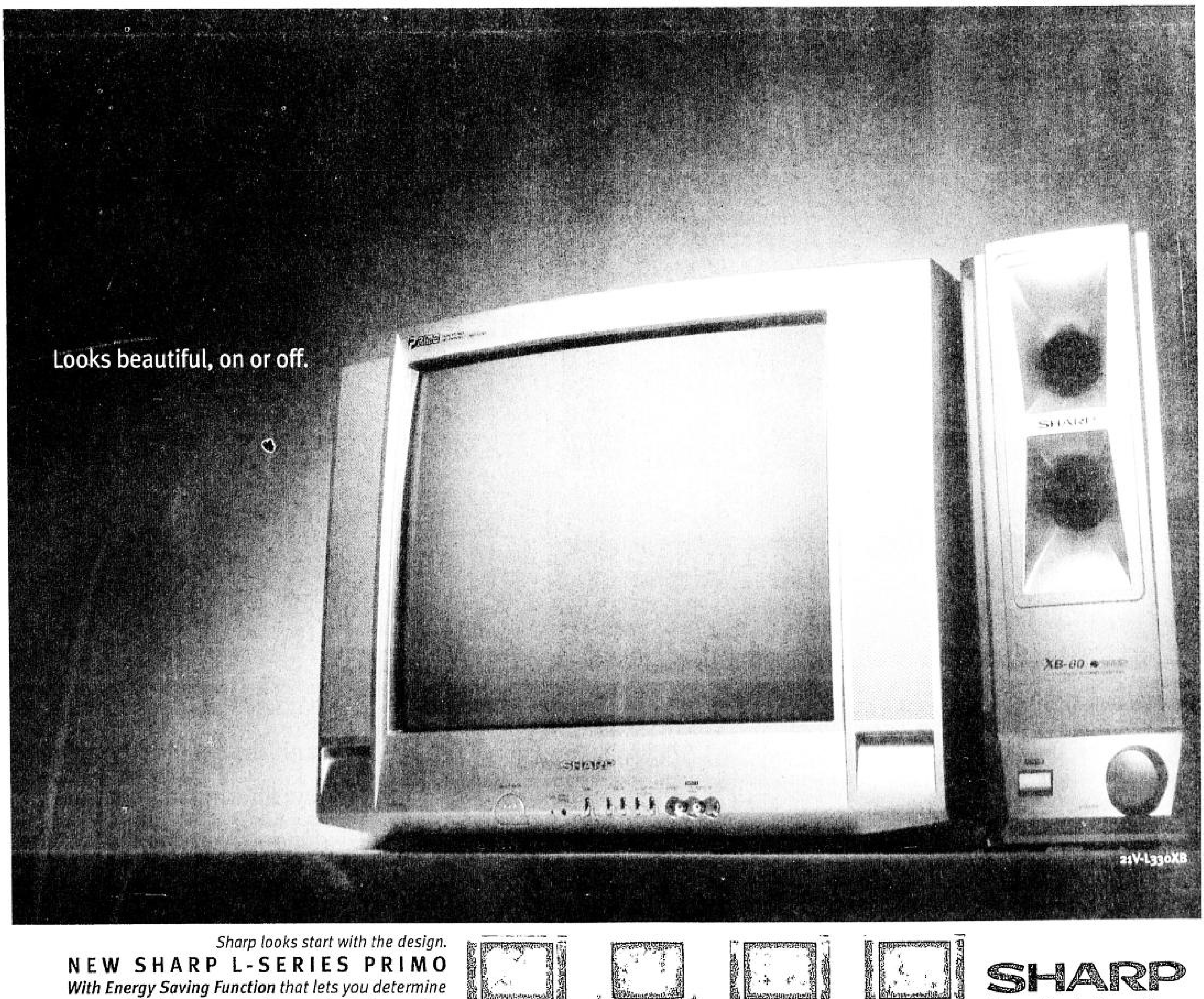
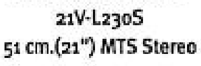
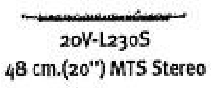
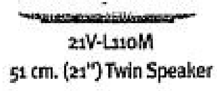
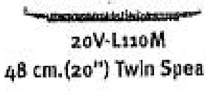


Sharp looks start with the design.
NEW SHARP L-SERIES PRIMO
***With Energy Saving Function** that lets you determine screen brightness* • 181 Channel-Cable Compatible Tuner • Three Language Menu on Display • Auto-off • Full Function Remote Control • Auto Search Channel Memory


21V-L230S
51 cm.(21") MTS Stereo


20V-L230S
48 cm.(20") MTS Stereo


21V-L110M
51 cm. (21") Twin Speaker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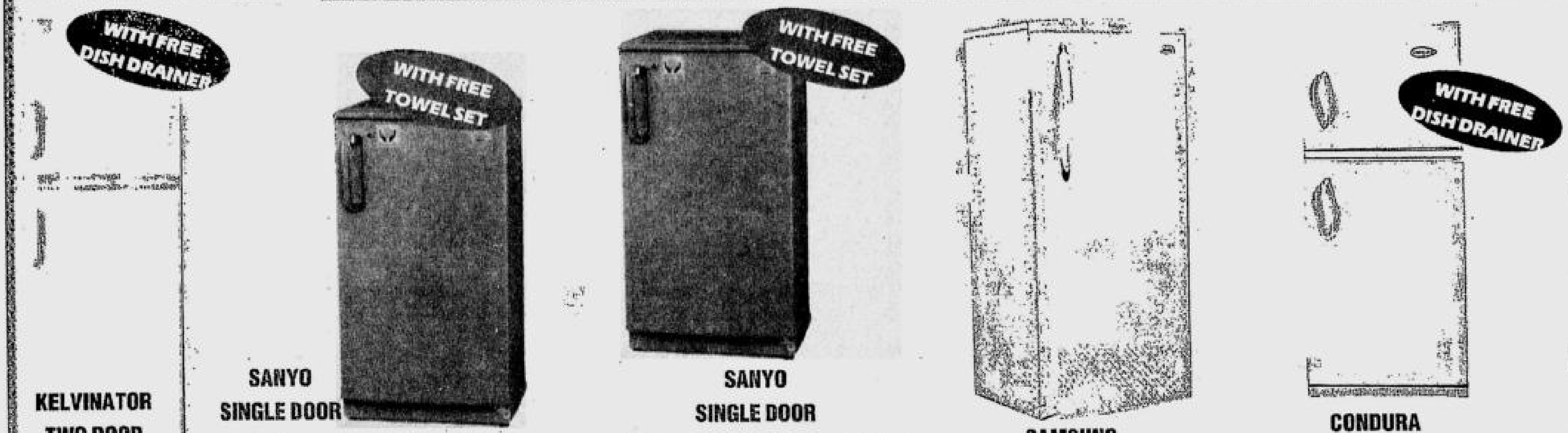

ESLA

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3 DAYS ONLY!

The Return of the Biggest Appliance Sale!

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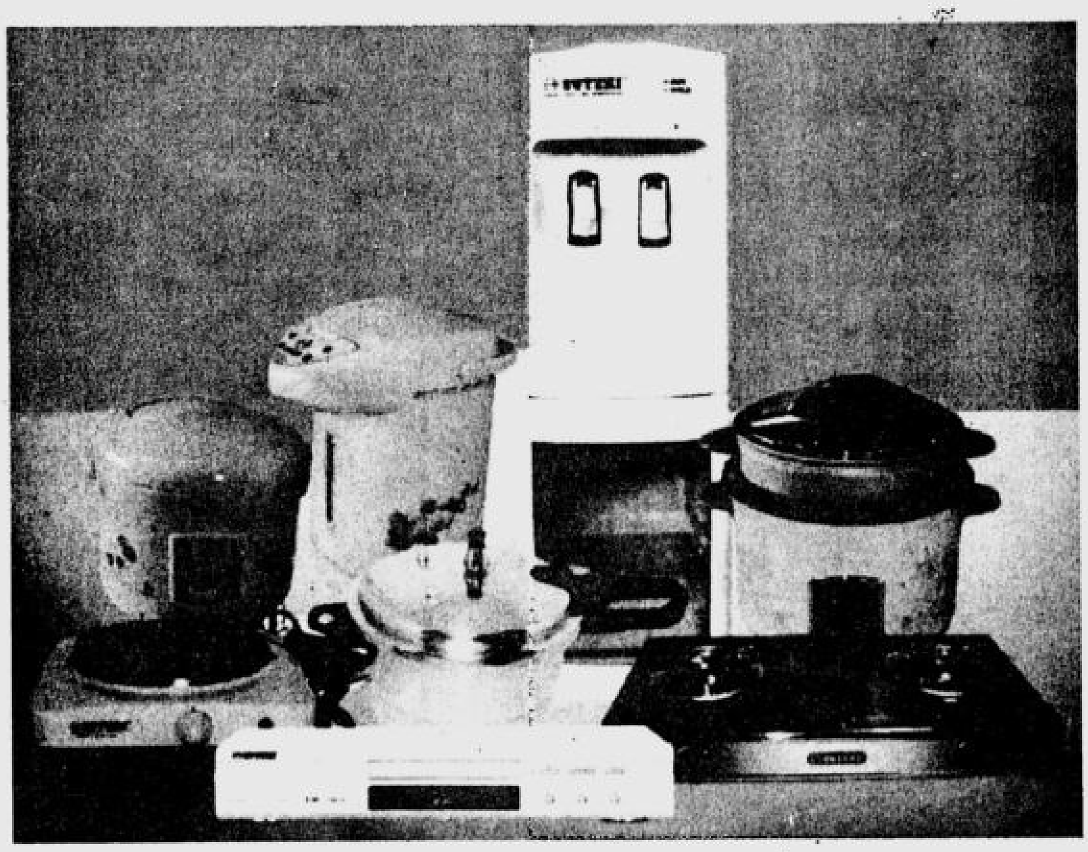
TWO DOOR
KPS-7TD (7 CU FT) P 12599
KPS-9TD (9 CU FT) P 13299

SANYO
SINGLE DOOR
MANUAL
SR-507NM (5 CU FT) P 7759
SR-707NM (6 CU FT) P 8249
SR-807NM (7 CU FT) P 8739

SANYO
SINGLE DOOR
SEMI-AUTO DEFROST WITH LOCK
SR-507ND (5 CU FT) P 8119
SR-707ND (6 CU FT) P 8459
SR-807ND (7 CU FT) P 8969

SAMSUNG
SINGLE DOOR
SR-A17NFB (5.5 CU FT) P 7999
SR-A19NFB (6 CU FT) P 8499

CONDURA
TWO DOOR
CPS-7TD (7 CU FT) P 12299
CPS-9TD (9 CU FT) P 12999



Congratulations to ESLA
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ESLA expands network of stores

FrompageH1

branch in Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City. The 50th store is the result of the rapid expansion advocated by Lim during his 10-year tenure as head of the company. Maintaining this number of stores in the country is no mean feat but with its dedication and continued patronage of its clients, Esla always comes out a winner. "50 is the right figure for us. It is an achievement already being able to maintain a 50-store network," says Lim.

Along with the new family comes the improvement and relocation of its other stores into better, bigger, and strategic sites. The expansion was not limited to Metro Manila as Esla has also set up branches in the provinces. Finding the right location takes a lot of consultation among area managers plus the consideration that Esla caters mostly to the masses. However, with its affordable prices the clientele is expanding to the well-off customers as well. You may notice that most of its outlets are independent from the popular malls in the metropolis. "This is because setting up a store in the malls curtails a lot of rental and overhead expense and we do not want to pass it on to our customers," Lim says, "This gives us an advantage over dealers inside the malls." This is also one of the reasons Esla has a lower pricing of the products compared to other dealers. Lim understands very well that Filipinos are also suffering from the economic slowdown, thus giving its patrons the best deal possible.

Extended warranty

A year ago Esla tied-up with PhilAm for the extended warranty it is now offering its customers. The extended warranty allows you to buy extra warranty years aside from the one-year warranty the product manufacturer gives. It is, however, open only on selected brands.

Lim gives weight on the suppliers' commitment in honoring warranties. "It is something (the company) is very particular about," he says. "We have been very pursuant in trying to make our suppliers give the best in terms of service to our clients."

Legacy

Customers and their needs are foremost in Lim's concerns as these are also what his father had started. It was in 1967 that Emilio S. Lim thought of providing installment basis payment for appliance buyer in very reasonable terms. And for the younger Lim he only has this to say, "I always have been determined to focus in trying to give the better service and better quality and value of the products we sell. That's why we have concentrated into just expanding our line and not going to other ventures.

"We have been in the industry for 35 years so it's something that we'd like to tell the buying public that we are here to stay."

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SCANFROST REFRIGERATION SYSTEMS OUTSELL ALL OTHER BRANDS WORLDWIDE
SUPERIOR QUALITY • ENERGY EFFICIENT • TESTED AND PROVEN FOR STABILITY AND ENDURANCE

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MADE IN ITALY
EXPO 430 NVIE
1-Door
14.4 cu. ft.

SCANBEL VESTFROST UPRIGHT COOLER
W- GLASS DOOR
MADE IN SWEDEN

FKG-311	1-Glass Door	10.9 cu.ft.
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FKG-370	2-Glass Door	12.8 cu ft.
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SCANFROST SLIDING GLASS TOP CHEST FREEZER

225-635	8.0 cu.ft.
335-635	11.8 cu. ft.
445-635	15.7 cu. ft.
535-635	18.9 cu. ft.
635-635	22.4 cu. ft.

SCANFROST SLANTED GLASS TOP CHEST FREEZER

306-935	10.8 cu.ft. (Angle Top)
406-935	14.3 cu.ft. (Angle Top)
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FRAMEC ISLAND FREEZER
MADE IN ITALY
Calypso 150 TE w/o cover 13.2 cu ft.
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CV80 80 ft.
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211-307	7.5 cu ft.
311-307	11.0 cu ft.
411-307	14.6 cu ft.
HF-521	17.9 cu ft.
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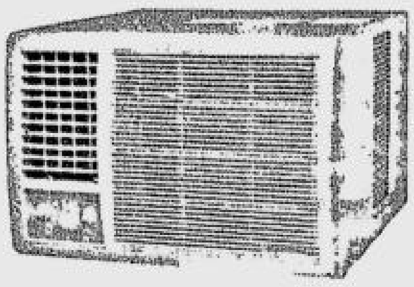
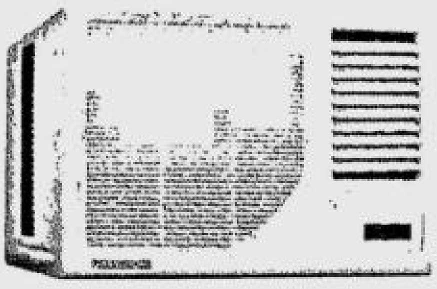


KELVINATOR
KGNRM090BB
1.0 HP
P 10099



CHANGHONG
KC-35/S
1.5HP
P 10299

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The Leader In –Self Financed and Personalized Installment Sales
35 YEARS 50 STORES
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ALWAYS THE LOWER PRICE !

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FREE FIRST MONTHLY PAYMENT !
FREE FLAT IRON TO ALL INSTALLMENT BUYERS !
FREE DELIVERY !
EXTENDED WARRANTY NOW OFFERRED TO ALL !
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EXTENDED FAMILY PROMO
NO CASH OUT STILL AVAILABLE!
NO DEPOSIT NEEDED
LAST PAYMENT FREE !
For Repeat Customer : LAST 2 PAYMENTS FREE !
MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED.

FOR QUICK CREDIT APPROVAL !
Apply thru PHONE or TEXT ur name n address to ur nearest store n will snd u n application form.

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SALES CORPORATION

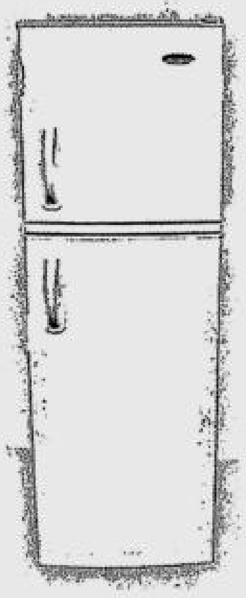
CONCEPCION INDUSTRIES
LOCAL TO GLOBAL

congratulates

ESLA

EMILIO S. LIM APPLIANCES

on its 35th year
of Quality Service



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One of the world's firsts.

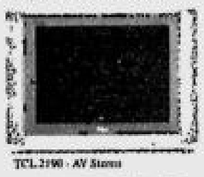
Congratulations to
Emilio S. Lim Appliance
on their 35th Anniversary!

Truflat
Finally, a real flat TV you can enjoy in your living room.
Not just in the showroom.
TCL

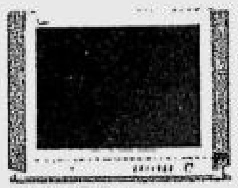
TCL 2990 Truflat

Introducing the TCL Truflat TV. It doesn't only give you the lifelike images you expect from pure flat TVs, it also has all the features you want plus a number of innovations you won't find in other TVs in its class. With its built-in equalizer, it allows you to personalize your own audio settings. Top that with MTS Stereo and Dynamic Bass Enhancement system for the sound that rivals THX. Also, it has not just the usual 2, but 3 Channel Flashback. And not just 6, but 10 AV sockets including an S-Terminal for your VCD or DVD. What's more, it comes in different trendsetting colors (titanium silver, pearl white and metallic blue), making it the only TV that delights your eyes even when it's switched off. Thanks to our unique "Hybrid Technology," we can produce state-of-the-art TVs in the most cost-effective way. So you don't have to pay that much to get the kind of TV you've always wanted. **That's the Difference.** Check out TCL Truflat at your favorite appliance store and see how its competitors simply fall flat in comparison.

TCL Hybrid Technology

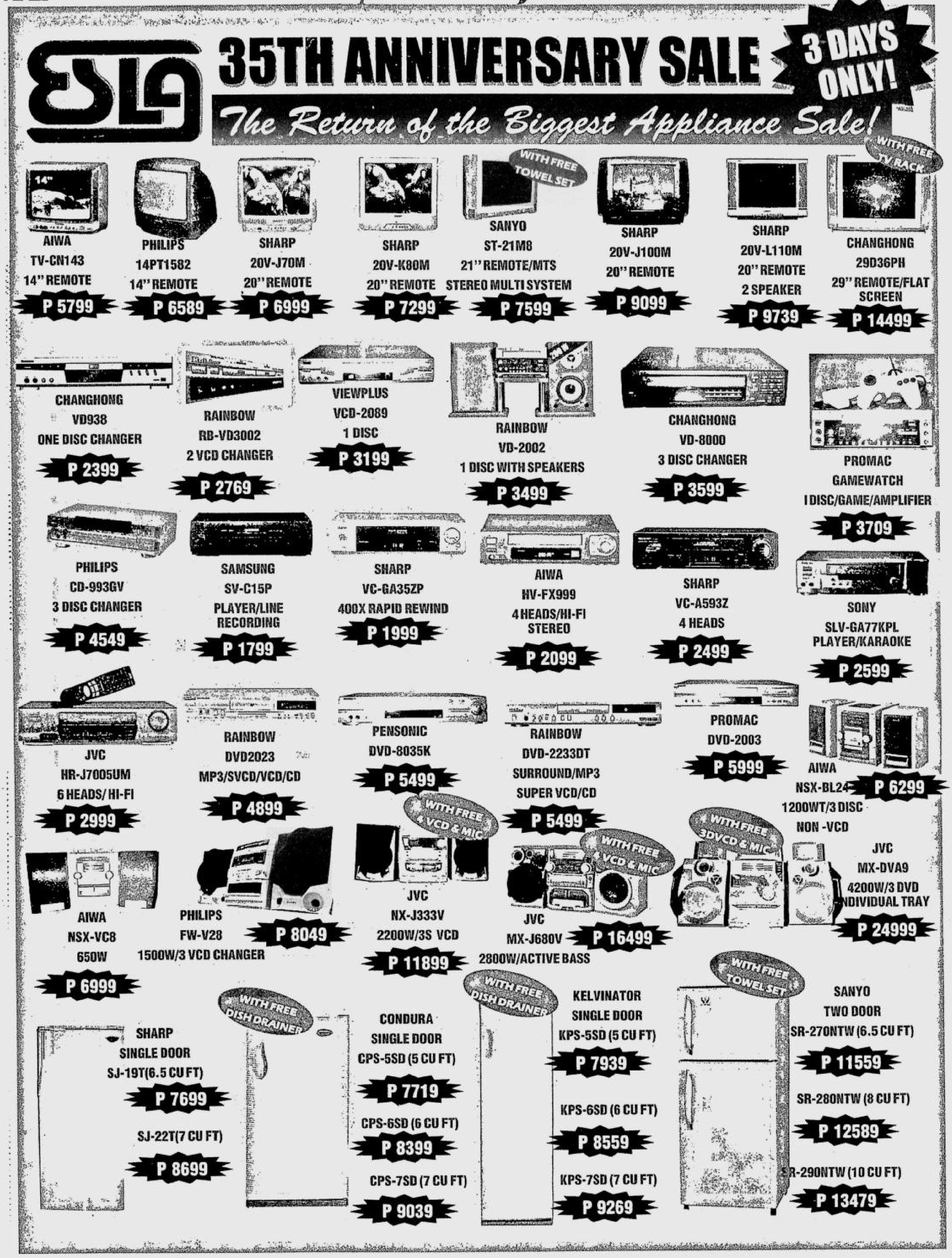


TCL 2190 · AV Stereo



TCL 2990 · MTS Stereo

TCL *Truflat*
Technology that Conquers Limitations



ESLA 35TH ANNIVERSARY SALE

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The Return of the Biggest Appliance Sale!

AIWA
TV-CN143
14" REMOTE
P 5799

PHILIPS
14PT1582
14" REMOTE
P 6589

SHARP
20V-J70M
20" REMOTE
P 6999

SHARP
20V-K80M
20" REMOTE
P 7299

WITH FREE TOWEL SET
SANYO
ST-21M8
21" REMOTE/MTS
STEREO MULTI SYSTEM
P 7599

SHARP
20V-J100M
20" REMOTE
P 9099

SHARP
20V-L110M
20" REMOTE
2 SPEAKER
P 9739

WITH FREE TV RACK
CHANGHONG
29D36PH
29" REMOTE/FLAT SCREEN
P 14499

CHANGHONG
VD938
ONE DISC CHANGER
P 2399

RAINBOW
RB-VD3002
2 VCD CHANGER
P 2769

VIEWPLUS
VCD-2089
1 DISC
P 3199

RAINBOW
VD-2002
1 DISC WITH SPEAKERS
P 3499

CHANGHONG
VD-8000
3 DISC CHANGER
P 3599

PROMAC
GAMEWATCH
I DISC/GAME/AMPLIFIER
P 3709

PHILIPS
CD-993GV
3 DISC CHANGER
P 4549

SAMSUNG
SV-C15P
PLAYER/LINE RECORDING
P 1799

SHARP
VC-GA35ZP
400X RAPID REWIND
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AIWA
HV-FX999
4 HEADS/HI-FI STEREO
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SHARP
VC-A593Z
4 HEADS
P 2499

SONY
SLV-GA77KPL
PLAYER/KARAOKE
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JVC
HR-J7005UM
6 HEADS/ HI-FI
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P 4899

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SURROUND/MP3
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AIWA
NSX-BL24
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650W
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PHILIPS
FW-V28
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JVC
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JVC
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NDIVIDUAL TRAY
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SHARP
SINGLE DOOR
SJ-19T(6.5 CU FT)
P 7699
SJ-22T(7 CU FT)
P 8699

WITH FREE DISH DRAINER
CONDURA
SINGLE DOOR
CPS-5SD (5 CU FT)
P 7719
CPS-6SD (6 CU FT)
P 8399
CPS-7SD (7 CU FT)
P 9039

WITH FREE DISH DRAINER
KELVINATOR
SINGLE DOOR
KPS-5SD (5 CU FT)
P 7939
KPS-6SD (6 CU FT)
P 8559
KPS-7SD (7 CU FT)
P 9269

WITH FREE TOWEL SET
SANYO
TWO DOOR
SR-270NTW (6.5 CU FT)
P 11559
SR-280NTW (8 CU FT)
P 12589
R-290NTW (10 CU FT)
P 13479

EMILIO S. LIM APPLIANCES

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION BRANCHES

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Sen.Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City
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FAX # 894-1550 / 894-3985
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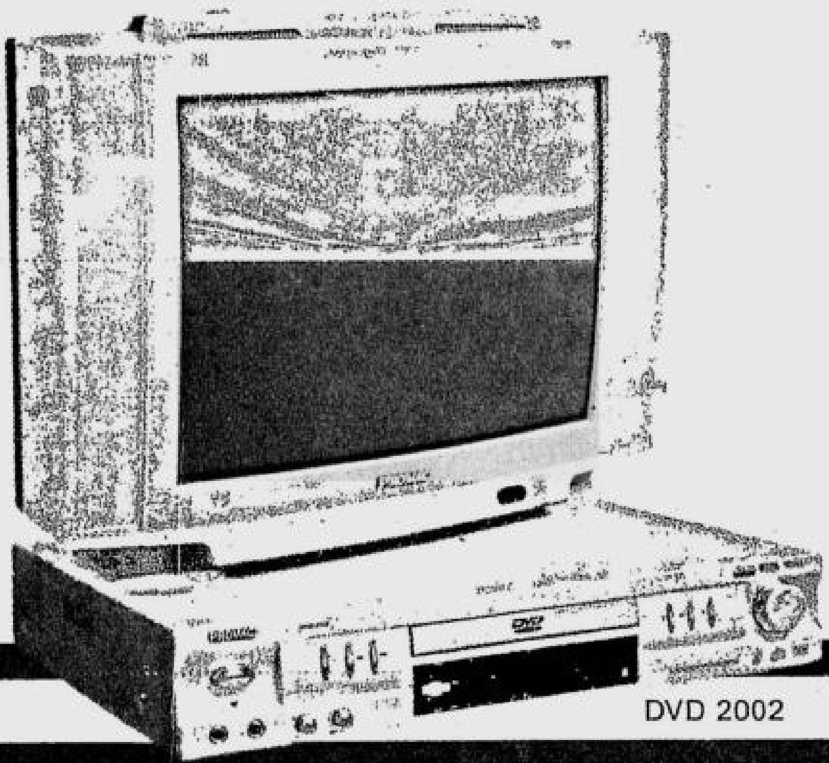
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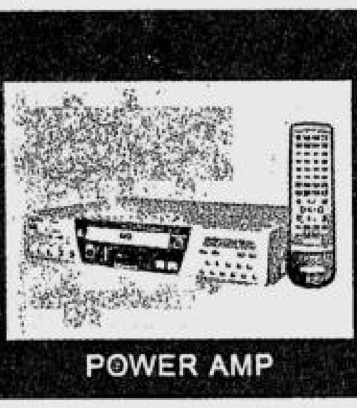
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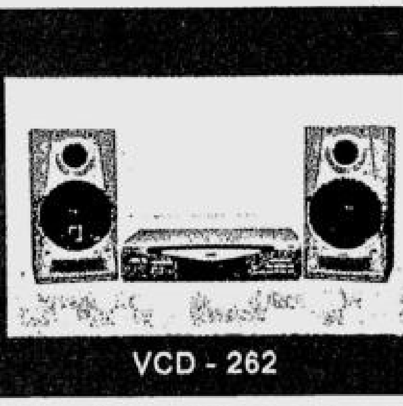
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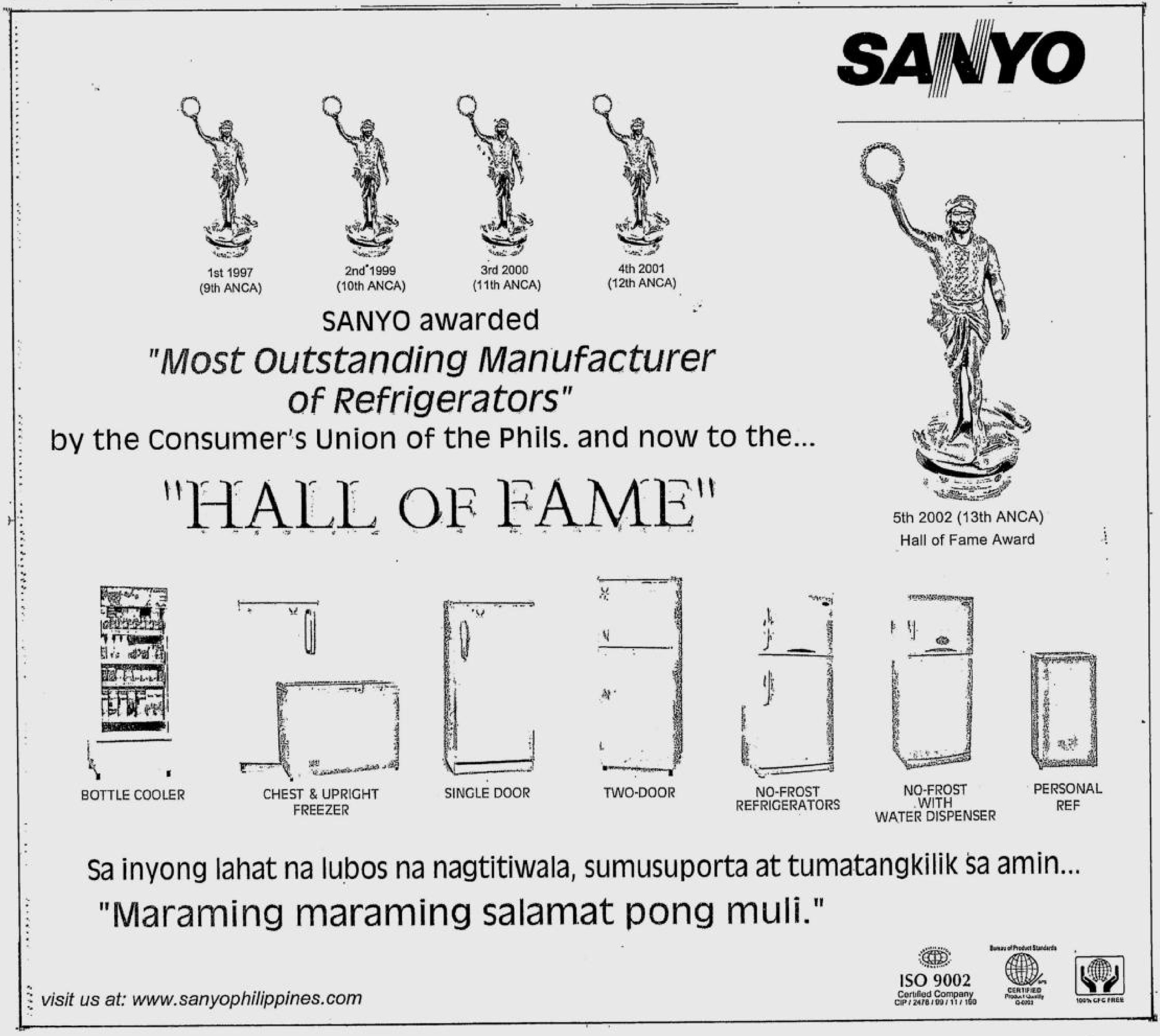

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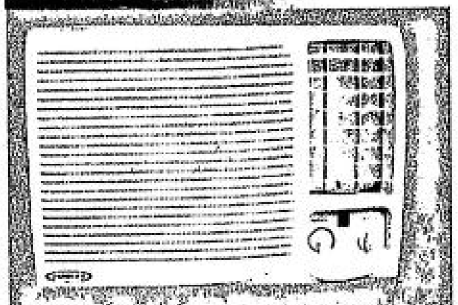

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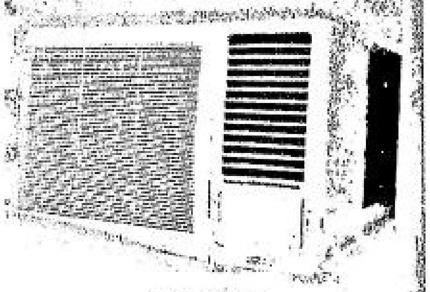
P14259



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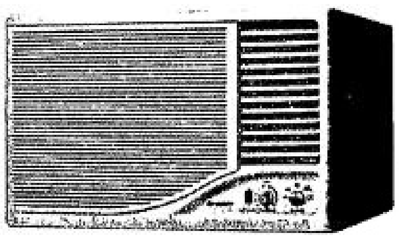
CW-C70APH
3/4 MANUAL
P14319



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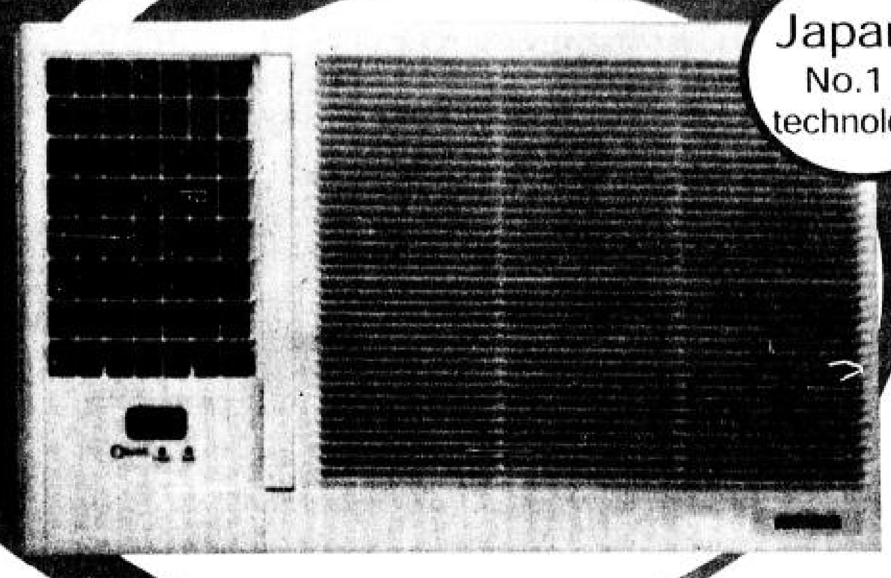

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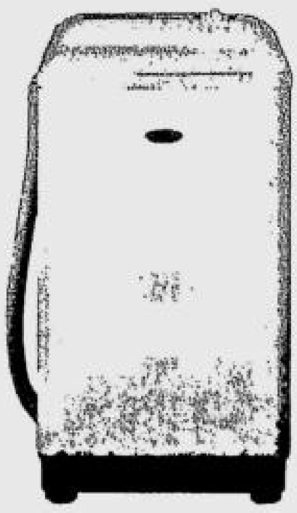

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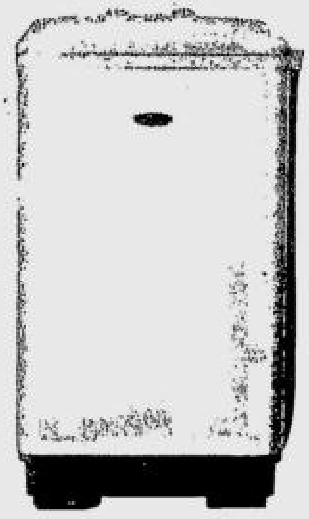
4.2 KG WASHER
P2599



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5.2 KG WASHER
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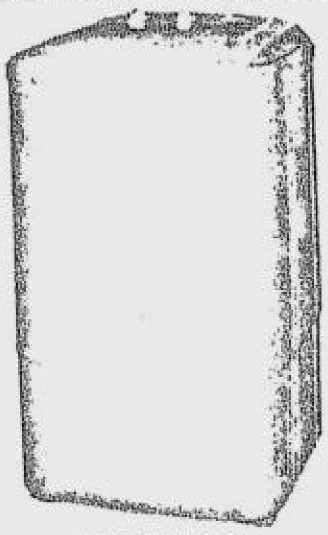

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6 KG WASHER
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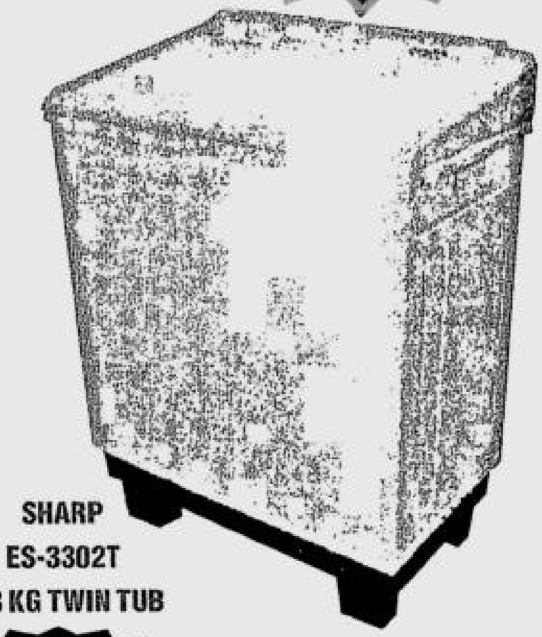

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3.3 KG TWIN TUB
P4199

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5.2 KG TWIN TUB
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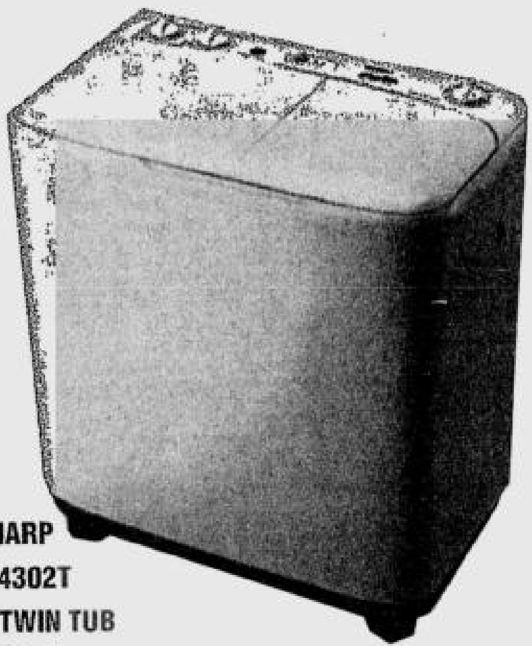

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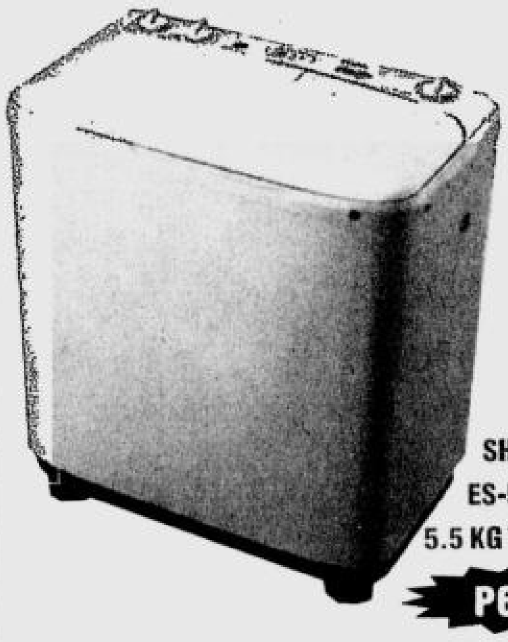
4.3 KG TWIN TUB
P5269



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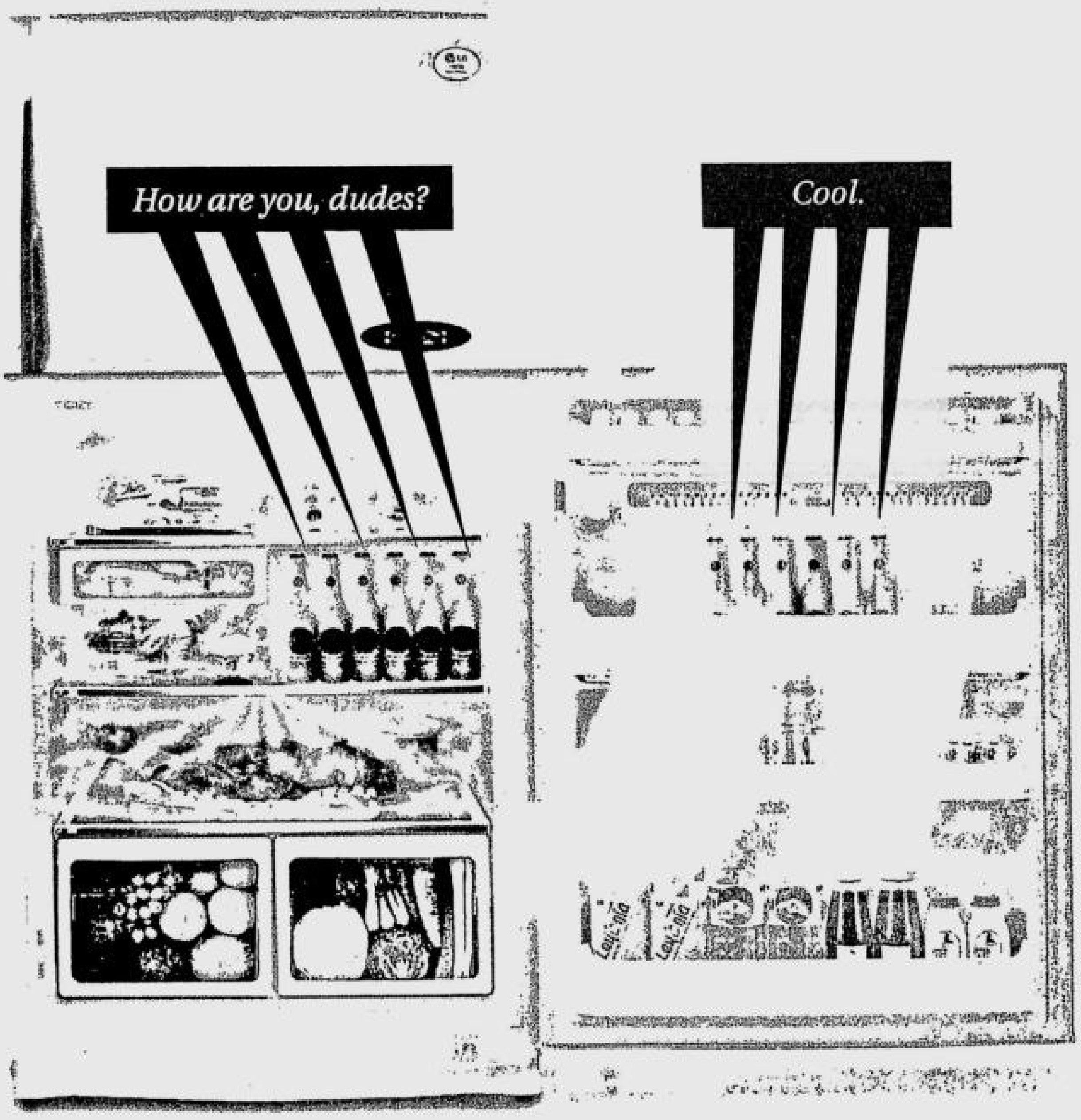

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